FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 DECEMBER 1985

Reaction to Terrorist Attacks at Rome, Vienna Airports

Following Libya's expressed approval for the 27 December terrorist attacks at Rome and Vienna airports, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres accused Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of "drumming up hatred and extremism" and held him responsible for the "indiscriminate killing of men, women, and children." *THE JERUSALEM POST reported. The Libyan agency JANA* had described the attacks by "sons of the martyrs of Palestine" as "heroic operations" which are "a direct result of the Sabra and Shatila massacres." JANA castigated Tunisia, Egypt, and Jordan for their denunciations of the operations. The PLO condemned the terrorist attacks in statements broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, denying that the PLO was responsible and reaffirming its commitment to the Cairo Declaration. A commentary by the radio maintained that the attacks were "aimed at the PLO more than any other target" because Italy and Austria understand Palestinian rights more than other West European states. Riyadh radio claimed that Israeli intelligence was behind the terrorist attacks, contending that Mosad hired mercenaries to attack the airports in order to give Israel an excuse to strike at Palestinian bases in Khartoum or elsewhere.

The sole surviving gunman in the Rome attack said he belongs to the group led by Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, AFP disclosed, and he warned that other attacks will follow. Messages found in the pockets of the dead terrorists indicated that the Rome attack was in revenge for the Israeli raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis, according to the agency, which pointed out that several Arab newspapers have alleged that Israeli jets refueled in Sicily on their way to Tunisia. From Beirut, AFP reported that the hitherto unknown "Arab Fedayeen Cells" claimed responsibility for the attacks, which left 18 dead and over 100 wounded.

Lebanon: Tripartite Agreement

The text of the "National Agreement To Solve the Lebanese Crisis," signed by the leaders of the Lebanese Forces, Amal Movement, and Progressive Socialist Party in Damascus 28 December, was broadcast by Damascus radio the following day. The agreement calls for an end to the civil war and the drafting of a new constitution within a year after the formation of a new government which will organize elections to a new Chamber of Deputies on the basis of a new electoral law and will draft a plan to cancel sectarianism in the legislature, executive, and administration. Meanwhile, the present Chamber will be expanded to 198 deputies through the appointment of new members in accordance with the principles of equal sharing between Muslims and Christians. The president will retain many powers but will only attend cabinet meetings in "limited cases" and will have no voting power at meetings of the Supreme Defense Council.

As for the security problem and the mechanism for ending the civil war, the tripartite agreement stipulates that Syrian forces will be stationed at agreed points to support the Internal Security Forces, which will be reinforced in order to extend state authority and collect weapons from the militias. The Lebanese Army will be withdrawn to its bases for "rehabilitation" with Syrian assistance and Syrian military units will remain at specific points in Lebanon until the Lebanese Army is rebuilt and ready for "defensive tasks against the enemy." The document stresses the need for Lebanese-Syrian security integration and says Lebanon must not allow itself to be a gateway through which Israel can attack Syria. The Lebanese Army must be kept away from internal political conflicts and its main task is defined as resisting Israeli occupation.

Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Elie Hubayqah called for the rapid implementation of the agreement in remarks reported by Voice of Lebanon radio 30 December, stating that a new government should be formed within 1 week. Lebanese Forces Chief of Staff Samir Ja'ja' warned, however, that any agreement should be based on "political reality," according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Beirut radio had earlier reported that Ja'ja' opposed the agreement, along with Phalangist and National Liberal Party leaders.

Syrian-Jordanian Summit

Jordan's King Husayn left Amman for Damascus 30 December, Amman radio announced. Beirut radio reported that the visit, which was originally scheduled for 28 December, was postponed "to pave the way" for Syria's participation in the signing of the Lebanese tripartite agreement.

Egypt

The soldier who killed seven Israelis at Ra's al-Burqa' in October was sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labor, Cairo radio reported. Israel's ambassador to Egypt expressed "full confidence in the Egyptian judicial system" following the sentencing, Jerusalem radio noted, adding that Israel is now waiting for the "full official report" on the affair. A PFLP statement, however, condemned the sentence calling it the result of Israeli and U.S. pressure on Egypt.

Libya

Libyan "observers" will go to the Mali-Burkina Faso border as part of a cease-fire agreement reached between the two countries 29 December, JANA reported. A Tripoli radio report on the agreement revealed that Libya will participate in a "military surveillance committee" that will also include representatives from Nigeria, Mali, Burkina Faso, and the OAU. However, Mali's foreign minister, in an interview broadcast by Paris radio, insisted that Mali has signed "neither a joint communique nor a declaration with anyone."

Iran-Iraq War

Commenting on the recent seizure of a Danish ship and the confiscation of 60 tons of explosives it was delivering to Iraq, the Iranian Navy commander announced that Iran will "increase" its interception of ships in the Oman Sea, IRNA reported. In remarks to *ETTELA'AT*, the commander noted that ships carrying "suspicious cargo for Iraq" have begun using "different routes" to avoid interception. As for the air war, a General Command communique carried by Baghdad radio announced that Iraqi planes successfully raided Khark Island and accurately hit a large maritime target near the Iranian coast 27 December. Iraqi planes again raided Khark Island 28 and 29 December and flew 79 missions against ground targets 28 December, according to communiques broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio.

Iran

Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that Iran sets no conditions for cooperation with the GCC, Tehran radio reported. During talks with visiting UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid al-Nu'aymi, the Majlis speaker related that neutrality on the part of the Gulf states toward the Iran-Iraq conflict would be "acceptable."

In another development, one of the Yemeni nationals who hijacked a Saudi plane to Tehran last year was sentenced to 12 years in prison while the second hijacker was acquitted, IRNA announced.

Pakistan

Martial law ended 30 December, President Ziaul Haq announced in a speech broadcast by Karachi radio. Speaking to a joint session of Parliament, the president proclaimed the "dawn of a complete democratic era," revealing that the constitution is "fully restored."

Afghanistan

Responding to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's 28 December "hostile statement" supporting Afghan "counterrevolutionary bands," a Kabul radio commentary asserted that Reagan, while making it appear as if the United States wants a solution to the Afghan situation, is actually extending "shameful interference" in Afghan internal affairs. The radio added that Washington is responsible for all the bloodshed and destruction in the DRA. Meanwhile, a Foreign Ministry official cited by Kabul radio affirmed that the DRA seeks direct talks with Pakistan not out of a need for recognition by the Pakistani regime, but because of its "earnest political will" for such talks.

PLO Affairs

Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi will lead a PLO delegation to official talks in Moscow 6 January, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio announced, adding that Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has been invited by the CPSU to participate in its congress, which begins 25 February.

Sudan

Elections are officially scheduled for 1-12 April, a government statement cited by KUNA announced. A joint meeting of the Transitional Military Council and the Cabinet set 18 January-23 February as the voter registration period.

Algeria

Opposition leaders Ahmed Ben Bella and Hocine Ait Ahmed called for an end to the "undeclared war between Morocco and Algeria" in a joint statement to a Moroccan newspaper cited by Rabat radio. The opposition leaders declared that it is not in Algeria's interest "to dismember Morocco."

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PLO Denies Responsibility for Rome, Vienna Attacks

JN281817 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] In Tunis a responsible source at the PLO Political Department has stated the following:

The PLO was surprised at news agency reports on the two incidents that occured at Rome and Vienna airports yesterday. It was also surprised at Israeli officials' statements accusing the PLO of these two attacks.

The PLO denies that it or any of its organs had any connection with the incidents that took place in the territories of two friendly countries. The PLO would like to reiterate its commitment to the contents and text of the Cairo declaration issued by brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman.

The PLO would also like to draw the attention of the world public and all parties concerned in the Middle East conflict to the seriousness of the Israeli threats to the PLO — threats to take strong revenge against the PLO. The black record, which is full of organized Israeli terrorism against our Palestinian people throughout long years, provides a picture of what the hostile Israeli authorities plan to carry out against innocent civilians among our people in various parts of the world and to intensify what these authorities call the iron fist against our people in the occupied Palestinian territories.

On this occasion and at the same time the PLO announces its denial of any connection with such actions, it would like to reiterate that Israeli terrorism will not prevent our people from pursuing their just, sacred, and legitimate struggle against the Israeli occupation in order to achieve their national legitimate rights to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of their own state on independent soil. Revolution until victory!

Groups Claim Responsibility for Airport Attacks

Surviving Gunman Names Group

NC281010 Paris AFP in English 1002 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Rome, Dec 28 (AFP) — The sole surviving gunman in yesterday's terrorist attack on Rome's Fiumicino Airport claimed responsibility for the assault today on behalf of a group called the "Martyrs of Palestine," police said.

The wounded man, identified by police as Muhammad Sarhan, told investigators he was born in the Palestinian camp of Shatila, outside Beirut.

A message signed by the "Martyrs of Palestine" was found on the assailant, a police spokesman said.

The attack left 14 people dead and more than 60 injured at the check-in counter of the Israeli airline El Al. An attack at Vienna airport at the same time killed three people and injured 47.

'Arab Fedayeen Cells'

NC281706 Paris AFP in English 1703 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Beirut, Dec 28 (AFP) — The Arab Fedayeen Cells, a previously unknown group, claimed responsibility here today for yesterday's bomb attacks against the Israel El Al airline's check-in counters at the Rome and Vienna airports that left 18 dead and about 100 wounded.

In a communique dated yesterday and received today by a foreign news agency here, the group claimed that "both operations were carried out by units of our fedayeen who chose the code name 'Groups of Christ' ".

"With these operations," the communique said, "we proclaim the beginning of a new revolutionary action... to ensure an Arab renaissance and to kill as many Zionists and imperialists as possible."

"We struck in Rome the reply to the Italian Government's collaboration with Zionists and imperialists, and in Vienna in answer to Zionist control of the Austrian Government, which is against the interests of the Austrian people," it said.

"These acts are also to warn Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and African countries and all others tempted to collaborate with Israel," it added.

It also warned that Mr 'Arafat, Kings Husayn of Jordan and Hassan II of Morocco and Presidents Husni Mubarak of Egypt and Saddam Husayn of Iraq would "suffer the fate reserved for all traitors to the Arab cause."

In Tunis, an authoritative source meanwhile said the passports used by the three gunmen in Vienna were false.

Caller Says Fatah Responsible

GF291322 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 28 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] An unidentified person telephoned *AL-QABAS* last night and stated that he was speaking from outside Kuwait. He claimed that the cadres of Fatah and Al-'Asifah were responsible for the operations in the Rome and Vienna airports. The following is the text of the statement he read over the telephone:

The cadres of Fatah and Al-'Asifah adopt the Rome and Vienna operations in response to Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] statement in Cairo. In subsequent operations and statements we will prove that we are not against any Arab country and that we will act according to the resolutions of the Fatah Movement. As it is known, terrorism generates terrorism. This is a primary warning to the United States, those with it, and Arab reactionaries, especially the Palestinians in the PLO. These two operations are a beginning of action by the Fatah Movement in the coming new year.

PLO Official Seeks Extradition of Attackers

LD281425 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The PLO has made it known it would do its utmost to identify the perpetrators of the attack on the El Al check-in desks in Rome and Vienna.

The PLO representative to Paris, Ibrahim al-Sous has asked that the perpetrators of this dastardly crime be handed over to the PLO for trial.

PLO Seeks To 'Uncover' Perpetrators of Attacks

JN281748 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] A responsible Palestinian source has stated the following:

The PLO has condemned the two terrorist operations in Rome and Vienna airports as well as the operation aimed at the PLO representative and his office in Nicosia. The PLO is exerting intensified efforts to uncover the perpetrators and planners. At the same time, the PLO hopes that the friendly Italian and Austrian Governments expose the organs of the country that stands behind planning, training, and preparations for these two terrorist operations, especially after the arrest of five of the elements who carried out the two operations in the Rome and Vienna airports.

PLO Condemns Attacks on Airports, Cyprus Envoy

JN281727 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] The PLO has condemned the two terrorist attacks on Rome and Vienna airports in which scores of innocent people were killed or wounded. It also denounced the terrorist operation against the PLO office in Nicosia and the PLO's representative in Cyprus. It issued the following statement in this regard:

The PLO expresses its full condemnation of these two criminal attacks on Rome and Vienna airports in which dozens of innocent people were either killed or wounded as well as the terrorist operation against the PLO office in Nicosia and the PLO representative in Cyprus. The PLO, while condemning this terrorist action, reiterates its policy expressed in the Cairo declaration against terrorism. At the same time, it believes that those who support such terrorist operations; hide behind such elements; and who finance, train, and arm them to carry out such condemned terrorist actions should be punished. Revolution until victory!

PNC Speaker Condemns Rome, Vienna Airport Attacks

LD281528 Kuwait KUNA in English 1324 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Amman, Dec 28 (KUNA) — Speaker of the Palestine National Council Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih Saturday condemned Friday's attack on Rome and Vienna checking desks of the Israeli airline El-Al absolving the PLO of responsibility.

During a meeting with the Romanian ambassador to Jordan today, the PNC speaker reiterated the position of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in denouncing all forms of terrorism against innocent civilians.

The Romanian ambassador, in turn, renewed his country's support and solidarity with the Palestinian people in their just struggle for restoration of their legitimate rights and establishment of their independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih, who discussed the Arab and world's scenes with the Romanian ambassador specially the Palestinian cause, accepted an invitation to visit Bucharest at a date to fixed [as received] later.

PLO's Salah Khalaf Comments on Airport Attacks

'Splinter Groups' Responsible

LD272010 Kuwait KUNA in English 1859 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 27 (KUNA) — A leading Palestinian official condemned here Friday this morning's attacks against the Israeli El-Al counters at Rome and Vienna airports and accused unnamed splinter groups of masterminding the attacks, in which 17 people were killed and 107 others injured.

Central Committee member and second in command of the Palestinian mainstream Fatah Movement, Salah Khalaf, better known as Abu Iyad, also accused breakaway groups, opposed to the PLO, of carrying out the two attacks to undermine the organisation's credibility, particularly after the Cairo declaration made by chairman Yasir 'Arafat following his meetings with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo last month.

However, the official declined to name these breakaway groups, adding "everything has now become clear."

In the said declaration, the PLO leader came out publicly against all armed operations on civilian targets carried outside occupied Palestinian land as naked and condemnable acts of terrorism.

Abu Iyad further accused perpetrators of the Vienna and Rome criminal attacks as aiming to undermine the close relations between the PLO and each of Austria and Italy.

"It is unfortunate," the official said, "that at a time when such national laeders as Italy's Prime Minister Bettino Craxi stand beside our cause and people to the extent of supporting our armed struggle such groups try to discredit the Arab and Palestinian struggle, and to bring harm to Italy and the Italian people who mainly back our national causes and the Palestinian people's cause in particular," he emphasized.

Khalaf noted that former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and, after him, the ruling socialist party had taken "stands in support of our cause", adding that perpetrators of the two attacks were dissatisfied with "this close relationship between the PLO and each of the Italian and Austrian Governments".

Abu Iyad called upon Arab countries to live up to the level of

their responsibility and "stop offering training to PLO-breakaway groups".

"We condemn these operations" Fatah official emphasized, "and are dutybound to raise our voice against the party behind these attacks,", cautioning, in the meantime, against blaming either the Palestinian people or Arab nation for these attacks, while ignoring the sides "which instigate, finance, harbour and offer training to these PLO-breakaway factions".

Abu Iyad recalled that as far back as 1974, the PLO has announced "opposition to operations outside the occupied Arab lands, which only serve the interests of the Zionist enemy", he concluded.

Sees Attempt To 'Discredit' PLO

LD291108 Kuwait KUNA in English 0938 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 29 (KUNA) — A senior Palestinian official said the aim of the explosions in Rome and Vienna airports last Friday goes beyond blasting the Israeli Airline El-Al bureaus.

In an interview with Kuwaiti daily *AL-ANBA'*, published here today, member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Fatah Movement Salah Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, said there are three aims behind the two explosions, which resulted in 140 persons being killed and wounded.

He added the aims include discrediting the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and showing that the PLO's political movement is a failure and that there is no way but practicing terrorism, which differs from armed or revolutionary struggle.

The third aim of the explosions, Abu Iyad said, is to show that the center of weight is the country, which accomodates those elements and not the PLO, on the bases that that PLO can not stop terrorism on the Palestinian platform, but this country can stop it alone. [Sentence as received]

The Palestinian official pointed out that last Friday's operations are not only planned at disgracing the Palestinians but also all the Arabs before the international community, particularly within the Israeli media campaign against the PLO.

He affirmed that to choose Rome and Vienna airports as a scene for these explosions was not a coincidence but an international aim to destroy the Palestinian-Italian and the Palestinian-Austrian relations within the framework of blowing all the Palestinian cause.

Abu Iyad stressed that Italy and Austria are friendly countries and their relations with the PLO are strong.

He called on Arab countries to hold an emergency summit "to reveal to the world that there are Arab countries, which use Palestinian and Arab elements to implement terrorism plans."

He called on friendly countries, like the Soviet Union and France to take a 'courageous' stance to prove the innocence of the PLO from these "terroristic operations".

PLO's Milhim on Attacks, Mubarak Comment, Deficit

JN290858 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Dec 85 p 22

[Excerpt] PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim has said that the Rome and Vienna airport operations, which took place the day before yesterday and claimed several innocent lives, were aimed at harming the PLO. In a statement to *AL-DUSTUR* on his return to Amman from Tunis, Milhim expressed the belief that the statements attributed to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak were distorted, making them sound as a warning to the PLO to recognize Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Milhim, head of the Occupied Homeland Affairs Department, said that the EEC has a number of projects in the occupied territories and that he will try and meet with Claude Cheysson at the beginning of next year. He said that he was supposed to meet with Cheysson in Brussles on 21 October to discuss the establishment of projects in the occupied homeland. On the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for bolstering the steadfastness in the occupied homeland, Milhim said that the committee's budget continues to show a deficit. He said: We are waiting to receive any amount of support from Iraq and Oman to lessen the impact of this deficit which has been reflected on our steadfast people under occupation, especially the universities.

PLO Radio Commentary Views Airport Attacks

JN281917 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1707 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] As regards the place and timing [words indistinct], we can say that the two operations in the Rome and Vienna airports were aimed at the PLO more than any other target because Italy and Austria, along with Greece, understand Palestinian rights more than any other West European states. They are also aware of and support the Palestinian people's struggle.

In Rome and Vienna the PLO had an advanced position regarding dialogue with West Europe to gain support for the Palestinian people's national aspirations. Those who carried out the two operations in the airports of these two capitals undoubtedly aimed at destroying this advanced and distinguished position and at disrupting the positive Palestinian relations with the Italian and Austrian Governments.

The timing of the two operations constitutes an exposed attempt to [words indistinct] the PLO had explained in the Cairo declaration regarding its stand on terrorism on the one hand and armed struggle on the other. It goes without saying that this attempt is within the framework of the fierce onslaught the United States and Israel are launching to mix terrorism, which we denounce and of which we are the first victims, and the legitimate and national armed struggle which represents our right and means.

The operations in Rome and Vienna will undoubtedly give the enemy an opportunity for political and military propaganda against the Palestinian people and the PLO. This is not because the Palestinian people and their organization have any connec-

tion with these two operations, but because those who planned and carried them out wanted to pave the way for the enemy to act against our people's interests and also because the enemy will not hesitate to exploit this opportunity to the maximum. Zionism and the United States have always sought to strike at the positive Palestinian relations, particularly with our friends in West Europe. The United States and Zionism also seek to exclude the PLO and its people from the political process in the Middle East. Moreover, the United States and Zionism are continuously planning military operations against Palestinian targets and positions.

In light of this, there is no need to reiterate that the PLO has no connection with the two operations at the Rome and Vienna airports. In fact, there is no need to say that the side or sides which planned and carried out the two operations is hostile to the PLO and the Palestinian people. This is why brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] called on Italy and Austria to quickly reveal those who perpetrated, planned, and financed the operations. This call includes a denunciation of terrorism as well as a defense of the Palestinian image which is determined by the militant political and military course. This call is also aimed at preventing those who planned the two operations from distorting the Palestinian image and preventing the enemy from exploiting the two operations to launch a political and military propaganda campaign against our people and the PLO.

PLO Official: Abu Nidal in Libya; Behind Attacks

LD301648 Hamburg DPA in German 1547 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Baden-Baden 30 Dec (DPA) — 'Abdallah al-Franji, PLO representative in Bonn, believes that Abu Nidal, the extremist Palestinian leader, is the force behind the assassination attempts at the airports of Vienna and Rome. As al-Franji said today (Monday) in an interview with Suedwestfunk (Southwest German Radio), he had already warned of the possibility of such actions by the Abu Nidal group some weeks ago.

Al-Franji recalled the fact that Abu Nidal had been excluded from the PLO as long ago as 1976, and that he had been condemned to death. Abu Nidal no longer has the right to speak in the name of 'Fatah', the PLO combat organization. Al-Franji regards his assertion as being confirmed by the fact that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi the Libyan revolutionary leader, described the Vienna and Rome attempts as "heroic acts". Abu Nidal, he said, is currently living in Libya.

In Al-Franji's opinion, the majority of the Palestinians are still behind the peace policy of Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO leader. Nevertheless, this peace policy was being "punished": once by Israel, which had attacked his headquarters, and again by the radical Palestinains, who made 'Arafat out to be a "capitulator".

It was now a question of 'Arafat's continuing his political line and not giving up the peace process. The present situation in the Near East provided "fuel" for violent actions. The "passivity of many politicians in Europe" had also contributed to the peace process not "going in the right direction." The intereview was made available to DRA in the form of a news summary.

PLO Officials Foresee Israeli Attack on Offices

Khalil al-Wazir

NC301326 Paris AFP in English 1322 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Amman, Dec 30 (AFP) — Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander of the PLO's military wing, claimed here today that Israel was planning to attack PLO offices in Amman or elsewhere "in the next 48 hours" in reprisal for Friday's attacks against the Israeli airline El Al.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin warned after a cabinet meeting vesterday that his country would find the appropriate response to the attacks at Vienna and Rome airports in which 18 people died and more than 100 were wounded.

The Palestine Liberation Organization official, who is also known as Abu Jihad, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the PLO was taking threats of reprisals for the attacks "very seriously."

He said Israel was looking for ways to blame the PLO and was hoping to take advantage of public opinion to attack "centres of the Palestinian revolution."

He was unable to say which offices would be targets, except that "it could be our offices in Amman or elsewhere."

Reliable sources said the PLO had told its members to keep a low profile and the offices in Amman were almost empty.

Israel bombed the PLO headquarters in Tunis on October 1, killing around 60 people, in retaliation for the slaying of three Israeli civilians by Palestinian commandos on a yacht in Larnaca marina, Cyprus.

Salah Khalaf

GF290925 Doha QNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Dec (QNA) — Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has warned against the consequences of pinning the charge of terrorism on the PLO. He said that the Palestinian people must not pay the price for irresponsible operations carried out by dissident groups.

In statements published today by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'*, Abu Iyad urged the international community to bring to task the countries that shelter and finance the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] groups and others. He urged the Arab countries to hold a summit conference to discuss this issue.

He said that the PLO previously offered to cooperate with and assist numerous European countries to contain irresponsible and unjustified operations. These countries, however, did not respond.

Salah Khalaf said that he expects Israel to simultaneously carry out several oeprations against Palestinian bases. He said that among these operations there will be attempts to raid Palestinian camps and concentrations in several Arab countries.

'Arafat Reportedly Receives 2 Invitations to USSR
JN281820 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received two official invitations from the USSR to visit Moscow soon. The first invitation is to hold officials talks. A delegation has been formed headed by brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], who will visit Moscow on 6 January. The second invitation is from the CPSU to participate in the work of the 27th CPSU congress due to be held on 25 February 1986.

The Soviet ambassador in Tunis has extended the two invitations when Abu 'Ammar received him at the Palestinian leadership's headquarters in Tunis. The ambassador conveyed the Soviet leadership's wishes of speedy recovery for brother leader Abu 'Ammar.

PLO Source Denies Visit Planned
LD301504 Kuwait KUNA in English 1336 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow, Dec 30 (KUNA) — A ranking diplomatic Palestinian source, based in Moscow, ruled out Monday any possible scheduled visit by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to the Soviet Union in the near future.

The source, working in the PLO representation in Moscow, who refused to be identified told KUNA that "the PLO representation in the Soviet Union has no knowledge of Soviet invitation extended to PLO chairman 'Arafat to visit Moscow in the near future."

He also described press reports indicating to a scheduled visit by 'Arafat to Moscow in response to an official invitation as "rumours."

Meanwhile, the diplomatic Palestinian source clarified that the scheduled visit by head of the PLO's Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi to Moscow due to begin during the first week of January 1986, comes at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organization to hold talks with Soviet officials regarding the current Mideast situation in general, and the situation within the PLO in particular.

'Arafat 'Fully Recovered' From 'Indisposition'
LD281756 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] A Palestinian medical source has stressed that the brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has fully recovered from the health indisposition which had affected him during the last few days. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar has resumed his normal activities.

Doctor Says Health 'Reassuring'
GF281746 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] According to WAFA, the doctor who carried out medical tests on Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has stressed that the state of his health is completely reassuring. It said that his doctor has referred to his need to convalesce for several days.

'Arafat Expected To Arrive in Amman 'This Week'
JN280757 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
28 Dec 85 pp 1, 5

[By a *JORDAN TIMES* staff writer with combined agency dispatches]

[Excerpts] Amman — Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat is expected to arrive here this week for talks with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials, informed sources said.

Mr. 'Arafat, who was resting in bed with a bout of flu, resumed his normal activities on Tuesday, reports from Tunis said.

The PLO Chairman may also visit Cairo after his talks in Amman, the sources said.

Mr. 'Arafat's talks in Amman and Cairo will follow reports that the PLO has formally asked the Arab League to call a summit to discuss a statement by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak that the PLO should recognise Israel.

Mr. 'Arafat, in a message published on Thursday strongly condemned the killing of a Palestinian journalist in the occupied West Bank last week.

In a message he sent to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr. 'Arafat described the murder of Hasan 'Abd al-Halim as latest example of Israel's "organised terrorist campaign to oppress the Palestinian people."

The PLO leader called on the international community to "condemn this crime and work towards protecting the Palestinians from the Zionist terrorist campaign."

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'* reported on Thursday that Mr. 'Arafat has set up a new military wing of his mainline group Fatah, an underground organistation operating against Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Citing an unidentified Fatah official, the paper said the new organisation is called Al-Wathiqun (the Confident Men), and has been using "whatever weapons available to them within the occupied territory."

These, it said, include light arms, explosives and knives.

"The new organisation was created last February, when it blew up the Jerusalem-Herzliyya railway," the paper quoted the official as saying.

It said that Mr. 'Arafat thought of assembling and launching Al-Wathiqun "immediately after the (Palestinians') ouster from Lebanon" in the summer of 1982, when Israel invaded Lebanon.

" 'Arafat was then bent on seeking means of escalating armed resistance (against Israel) within the occupied territory," The Fatah official told the paper. "The new organisation will be formally launched on Jan. 1, 1986, to mark the 21st anniversary of Fatah."

Salah Khalaf To Meet USSR's Brutents in Kuwait

LD291831 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Dec (KUNA) — Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, today met here with the deputy chief of the International Department at the CPSU Central Committee, Karen Brutents.

Khalaf said that in their long meeting they reviewed the latest developments in Middle East issues, U.S. and Zionist pressures on the PLO, and the acts of violence which discredit the struggle of the Palestinian people, their revolution, and the struggle of the Arab nation.

In a statement to KUNA, Khalaf added that the viewpoints of the two sides were identical on the subjects discussed, including the unity of the Palestinian revolution groups and the way to confront future developments in the Arab arena.

He said that he informed the Soviet official of what the PLO envisages for the upcoming stage. It was agreed to complete the talks during the visit to Moscow next week of the head of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi.

Khalil al-Wazir Views Relations With Syria

GF271544 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Dec 85 p 26

[Amman dispatch by Tariz Haddad]

[Excerpts] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces and member of the Fatah Central Committee, has denied that a "Fatah" official is currently in Damascus.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-ANBA'*, Abu Jihad said: A special committee has been formed from the independent members of the Central Council as a practical step toward making contacts with the sides in Damascus to remove obstacles before the unity meeting. The committee recently held a meeting in Amman and urged that these contacts be made within a few weeks so that they could be discussed at the committee's meeting. However, it is stange that several stands have been adopted by sides in Damascus expressing rejection of the unity meeting.

Despite the fact that we hope and aspire to consolidate our unity — one of the most important principles of our national march — we must recognize the de facto conditions surrounding us and our brothers in Damascus. These conditions slow down the unity steps which require a great deal of time, continuous and hard work, and participation by all who are able.

Responding to a question by *AL-ANBA'* on the Soviet role in the region, especially in organizing a Syrian-Palestinian reconciliation, Abu Jihad stated that the PLO has always been very eager to maintain fraternal relations with Syria.

He said: The PLO has made several contacts with various circles, Arab brothers, and friends on the international arena, foremost being the Soviet Union, urging them to make sincere efforts to put an end to campaigns against the PLO and restore fraternal and natural relations between Syria and the PLO.

Despite many obstacles, we still eagerly exert efforts to restore fraternal relations with Syria.

He added: The reports that one of the "Fatah" brothers has visited Damascus is not true and currently we have no intention to do that because we have not made any preparations for it.

Fatah Official says Qaddumi To Visit Syria

GF281540 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1435 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Dec (WAKH) — Rafiq al-Natshah, Fatah representative to Saudi Arabia, has stated that Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, will lead a Palestinian delegation to Damascus after his visit to Moscow which he will make on 6 January.

In a statement published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-WAHDAH*, Al-Natshah said that two delegations from the Fatah Central Committee and the PLO Executive Committee will visit Damascus during the next 2 weeks in order to hold talks with senior Syrian officials on how to end differences between the two sides. The Palestinian official said: Contacts and mediation efforts between us and Syria have been fruitful and relations are now moving toward the right beginning on basic principles between Syria and the PLO. However, the Palestinian official affirmed that normal relations between the two parties require great sacrifices because this will make a very advanced step toward Arab solidarity.

Al-Natshah said that a summit meeting may be held between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in February in view of the outcome of the USSR-Syrian-Palestinian contacts. He expressed the hope that a summit meeting will actually be held between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and 'Arafat "so that we can turn over a page full of frictions and begin with optimism."

PFLP Condemns Sentence of Egyptian Soldier

LD291021 Kuwait KUNA in English 0906 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus, Dec 29 (KUNA) — The Popular Front for Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) has condemned the life sentence given to Egyptian border guard Sulayman Khatir who last October shot dead seven Israelis in southern Sinai.

A PFLP spokesman said in a statement Saturday the sentence was the result of Israeli and American pressures on the Egyptian government.

The spokesman said the verdict reflected complete indifference

towards the Egyptian masses who have protested the trial of Khatir.

The 25-year old soldier was, according to many Egyptians, doing his duty as a soldier when he shot the Israelis.

The PFLP statement said the Egyptian regime should have stood trial instead, for its commitment to the Camp David policy.

The Damascus-based Palestinian Front spelled out its total support to Khatir and called for his immediate release.

The Appeal Court in Egypt Saturday endorsed the life sentence term and Khatir's attorney said the prosecution has turned down a request that Khatir be tried by a civil court.

The verdict was pronounced by a military tribunal.

Commentary Examines Syrian, Libyan Missile Defenses

LD272144 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Unidentified correspondent's dispatch]

[Excerpts][Words indistinct] the threats of the United States now concerning the deployment of SAM-5 antiaircraft missiles in Libya. Protesting and making threats, Israel went to the United States and raised a similar campaign against the the deployment of SAM-2 antiaircraft missiles on Syrian territory (?near) the Lebanese border.

From the military viewpoint there is no doubt that the antiaircraft missiles are defensive weapons. Therefore, their deployment on the territory of any country can be considered only as a purely defensive measure. It is irrelevant whether the range of the SAM-5 missiles is 250 km, or the range of SAM-2 missiles is 60 km, because when faced with modern aviation technology the defender cannot wait until the enemy's aircraft have reached his capital or vital installations.

But the United States and Israel do not want any Arab country or any country in the region or even in the world, to practice its [word indistinct] right to prepare its defenses. That is why the complaint about the Syrian and Libyan missiles has been raised.

The ideas of the United States and Israel coincide in this respect. The Zionist enemy announces that the Syrian missiles affect its flights over Al-Biqa' and north Lebanon, and not over occupied Palestine or occupied south Lebanon. Washington considers that the Libyan missiles affect the flights of the 6th Fleet over the Libyan Gulf of Sidra, and not over the United States or even in the airspace of the NATO countries. The ideas of the United States and Israel are similar. They both consider the Mediterranean and the Middle East as a sphere of military influence and control for their military strategic cooperation. Therefore they declare threats of war or actual war against anything that violates the considerations of this influence and control, even if it is within the limits of absolute defense.

We do not need to stress that it is the duty of every Arab, regardless of any dispute, to defend the Syrian missiles, the Libyan missiles, and any other missiles that could, if there are genuine intentions, defend the Arab land and rights.

Three Countries, PLO Approve Arab League Session

Tunisia, Syria, Bahrain

LD281308 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Tunis, 28 Dec (TAP) — Arab League sources said here yesterday that Tunisia, Syria, Bahrain, and the PLO have approved the proposal made by the Arab League Secretary General Chadli Bendjedid to hold an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers on 4 January in Tunis. This would be prior to their travel to Fes for the Islamic Conference Organization foreign ministers' meeting which is scheduled to open there on 6 January.

In urgent messages to the Arab foreign ministers, the Arab League secretary general proposed the holding of the emergency meeting to discuss the Ivory Coast's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel and the expected establishment of diplomatic relations between [words indistinct] shortly as well as the preparation of the ground for the meeting of the permanent committee of Arab-African cooperation to be held in Damascus toward the middle of January.

Kuwait To Attend

LD281507 Kuwait KUNA in English 1345 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait Dec 28 (KUNA) — Kuwait has decided to attend the extraordinary conference of the Arab League Ministerial Council called for at the league's seat in Tunis, acting premier and foreign minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir said Saturday.

In a statement to KUNA and *AL-SIYASAH* newspaper today, Sheikh Sabah said one of the ministers will head his country's delegation to the conference which he predicted will look into the Syrian-Libyan and PLO requests for convening the extraordinary session.

Syria and Libya had previously asked for the extra-ordinary session to consider the question of restoration of diplomatic relations between a number of African countries with Israel and Spain's decision to establish relations with the Zionist entity.

But the PLO request for the session was to discuss the call by the Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on the PLO to recognize the Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which embody Israel's recognition.

KUWAIT

USSR Official Visits at Invitation of AL-WATAN

Meets Information Minister

LD271509 Kuwait KUNA in English 1404 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 27 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Information Minister Skeikh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad received here Friday the deputy head of the Foriegn Affairs Department of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee Karen Brutents.

Sheikh Nasir and Brutents discussed the developing Kuwaiti-Soviet relation and ways of strengthening cooperation between the two countries especially in the field of information.

The Soviet official praised the social and political development in Kuwait and invited the Kuwaiti minister of information to visit the Soviet Union.

Sheikh Nasir accepted the invitation whose date will be set later.

The Soviet ambassador to Kuwait Pogos Akopov, *AL-WATAN* daily Chief Editor Jasim al-Motawa and *AL-'ARABI* magazine Chief Editor Dr. Muhammad al-Rumehi attended the meeting.

Sheikh Nasir welcomed the guest and wished he would be able to acquaint himself with the country's different accomplishments.

Attends Receptions

GF271946 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 26 Dec 85 p 20

[Text] Jasim al-Muttawwa', *AL-WATAN* editor in chief, yesterday hosted a luncheon reception at the Kuwait towers in honor of Dr Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, and the accompanying delegation currently visiting the country at the invitation of *AL-WATAN*.

The reception was attended by Pogos Akopov, Soviet ambassador to Kuwait; Yusuf al-'Alayan, chairman of the Kuwaiti reporters' union; Sami al-Munayyis, National Assembly deputy; Aleksander Krasnov, APN chief editor of the Middle East Department [title as published]; 'Abdallah al-Hindi, deputy director general of *AL-WATAN*; Sulayman Fulayhan, deputy managing editor; Ghazi al-Jasim, director of the local department; and Dr Ahmad al-Nu'man, *AL-WATAN* correspondent in Moscow.

Soviet Ambassador Akopov hosted a dinner reception at his residence on 24 December, in honor of the guest. The reception was attended by Burjus Hamud al-Burjus, chief of KUNA board of directors; Dr Muhammad al-Rumayhi, editor in chief of the magazine *AL-'ARABI*; and a number of colleagues.

Denies Reports on Emigration

GF301230 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 29 Dec 85 pp 1, 20

[Report by Ahmad al-Nu'man]

[Text] Dr Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, has declared that the Soviet Union observes the spirit and text of the treaty of cooperation between it and Syria, and that Syria will not be alone in the face of any possible Israeli aggression.

The senior Soviet official, who is visiting Kuwait at *AL-WATAN*'s invitation, said: "I would like to remind you that we stand by Syria, with whom we have a treaty of cooperation, and we observe the spirit and text of the treaty. Thus Syria will not be alone in the face of any Israeli aggression against it."

Brutents said: "I want also to stress that the unity of the Arab ranks and Arab solidarity in opposing the policy of aggression of Israel and its protectors, and the open and vociferous Arab opposition to such a policy, will guarantee that the aggression will be repulsed and national independence will be safeguarded."

Responding to a question by *AL-WATAN* on the escalating threats of the rulers of Tel Aviv against Syria and the other Arab states, Brutents noted that the escalation in the threatening tone of Zionist Israel at this particular time, with the help of its protectors, is designed to maintain tension in the region. He said: "This is the Israeli strategy designed to escalate the level of tension in the Middle East."

Brutents added: "I believe that the policy of applying pressure, which Israel pursues with the help of its known friends, is based on several factors. Syria's policy in resolving the Middle East crisis is opposed to the policy of concluding separate deals to solve the crisis. Syria firmly opposes those who are trying to gain acceptance for such deals." The Soviet official asked why all of this is happening now, and added: "Your newspapers these days carry reports about an agreement to be concluded by the Lebanese militias tomorrow (29 December). Therefore, by escalating its campaign against Syria now, Israel seeks to inflame the situation in Lebanon. Your papers also carry reports on the normalization of relations between Jordan and Syria, and the visit of the Jordanian monarch to Damascus. Such developments do not please imperialist and Zionist circles. There is a great deal of 'truth' in such analyses."

Karen Brutents strongly denied reports circulated by the Zionist media on the emmigration of Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel. He said that all such reports are false and groundless. He declared: "This is not the first uproar to be fanned by Western media on the so-called emmigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, and we do not expect it to be the last. Such an uproar now is not raised by Israel without the assistance of those who are backing it." Brutents added: "The policy of separate deals has once again reached a deadlock. Therefore they are trying to undermine Soviet-Arab relations [in the hope that] perhaps some people in some Arab countries would take such a course into consideration, and perhaps others would be deceived by such fabrications that give raise to an artifical furor."

Brutents affirmed that the Soviet Union's stands in this regard are firm and consistent. He declared: "There were no agreements at Geneva, prior to, or after Geneva, on the emigration of Soviet Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel. These are false claims and there is no truth in them."

The Soviet official urged Arabs to view such lies and claims calmly and with wisdom and vision. He asserted: "Had there been no reaction to such an artificial uproar in the Arab world, those who have been raising a hue and cry would have desisted from their action and such cheap and propagandist clamor would have no chance of achieving its objectives."

Referring to the last part of *AL-WATAN*'s question on the truth of claims about the emigration of Soviet Jews, Karen Brutents said: "Some people do not like our rapprochement with the Arab Gulf states and the normal Soviet-Arab relations in general. The Geneva summit ended without any gains for those who are raising clamor for propaganda designed to frighten the Arabs and make them doubt their Soviet friends, and consequently to instill caution against and sow suspicion of the Geneva agreements and the Soviet stand on the Middle East question. It is clear that all this is similar to sending unsigned letters designed to sow discord, deceive, and create doubts."

Brutents added: "By raising a clamor and by such propaganda these quarters seek to destroy the climate of optimism for the possibility of continuing after Geneva, and to abort the opportunities created by the Geneva summit for a greater understanding so as to bring about solutions that calm the situation."

Referring to the Soviet stand on the issue, Brutents said: "The Soviet Union has adopted, and continues to adopt, a firm and consistent principled stand. Such a stand was reaffirmed by Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, when he addressed ambassadors and heads of foreign missions in Moscow 2 days ago and said: 'The Soviet Union adopts a firm and principled stand on regional issues in general, including the Middle East and Gulf issues.' In view of the fact that it is the people of these areas in particular that have the right to determine their own destiny and find their own solutions, we have to view matters from an angle of truth and realism and not through fabrication and media clamors."

Brutents continued: "We have a Russian saying — 'It is easy to wake up a light sleeper, and it is possible to wake up a heavy sleeper, but it is not possible to wake up those who are pretending to be asleep, but are not asleep.'"

Karen Brutents will be a guest at a seminar organized by *AL-WATAN* and scheduled to be held today. The meeting will be attended by senior officials, members of the National Assembly, university professors, and prominent journalists. *AL-WATAN* will later publish details of the seminar, as well as a discussion which members of the *AL-WATAN* Editorial Board held with the Soviet official which dealt with various issues.

USSR Official Denies Jewish Emigration Reports

LD301403 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1337 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Excerpt] A senior Soviet official strongly denied here today Western reports on the likelihood that Soviet Jews will be allowed to emigrate to Israel in the near future, saying that such reports are "simple lies."

The deputy head of the press section at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Valeriy Sukhin, told KUNA that "the Zionist circles and their supporters fabricate such lies now and again, and spread them through the Western news media."

Sukhin said that such provocative lies were aimed at harming the policy of the Soviet Union in the Middle East which seeks "the strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation with the Arab states, and backs the Arab struggle against Israeli and imperialist plans."

He stressed that his country's policy has always supported the struggle for a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem.

USSR, Israel Said To Attempt Nuclear Scare

LD271233 Kuwait KUNA in English 1023 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 27 (KUNA) — The Soviet report on the possession by Israel of nuclear warheads was synchronized with official Israeli statements on its ability to strike at any Arab city, to create a nuclear scare among the Arabs, a Kuwaiti newspaper said Friday.

The Soviet report, which was published in Beirut yesterday by the NOVOSTI AGENCY, said Israel is conducting underground nuclear tests at the Negev desert, and that it owns at least 40 nuclear warheads.

The Kuwaiti newspaper, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AAM*, said in its front page editorial that the Soviet report was intended to coincide with statements of Israeli War Minister Yitzhak Rabin in which he said all Arab cities will be targets for Israeli missiles if Israeli towns are hit by Arab rockets.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AAM also belittled the possibility of intentions by the Soviets to supply the Arabs with nuclear weapons, and highlighted Moscow's report plan to reopen the gate for its Jewish citizens to emigrate to Israel.

"The joint Soviet-Israeli performance of the nuclear weapons tune has only one explanation," said the paper, "and that is planting nuclear scare in the hearts of the Arabs."

'Sources' Say Israel Readies for Air Strike

LD281000 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0751 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Dec (KUNA) — Kuwaiti paper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* reports today that diplomatic sources "well-known for their close connection with the Israeli circles" have disclosed that "everything is now ready for the Israeli Air Force to strike

at Palestinian bases and targets in some Arab countries and that it is now only a question of time before this is done."

Quoting the same source, the paper says that the Israeli pilots chosen for the air operation "have already been officially chosen by the commander of the Israeli Air Force, General Levy Tutt and that these men have received the necessary air training for the intended air operation."

The paper, quoting the sources, says that the pilots have already been isolated in airbases in central and southern Israel and that they are now awaiting the military orders and instructions to stirke at the selected Palestinian targets.

The sources said that the Israeli air squadrons chosen for the operations have been supplied with additional fuel tanks and have been fully and intensively inspected by Israeli Air Force technicians.

Quoting a responsible official of the Israeli Air Force Command, the source said that there are, however, differences of opinion on the size of the Palestinian targets to be attacked and demolished by the Israeli air squadrons.

The sources added that some senior Israeli officers were opposed to striking Palestinian targets in more than one Arab country simultaneously and demand the implementation of just one plan — the attack of one specific Arab country, while another group of General Staff officers feel that the Israeli air offensive should be comprehensive and not limited and that such an attack should destroy the entire PLO military structure.

The sources pointed out that the differences continue over the zero hour between the Israeli military led by Yitzhaq Rabin and the group of senior officers and the political wing of the government, led by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres.

Defense Minister's Warning

LD301159 Kuwait KUNA in English 1038 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 30 (KUNA) — Defence Minister Shaykh Salim Al-Sabah Monday warned that Israel will "carry a kind of operation" against the Arabs.

In a press conference held here on the occasion of graduating the 13th batch of conscripts, Shaykh Salim commented on Israel's reactions to Rome and Vienna airports raids, by saying "... Israel fabricates excuses to practice its aggressions on civilian locations, how about now that it has an excuse, then it will carry out something."

Asked on the postponement of the visit, scheduled to be paid by Soviet defence undersecretary to Kuwait, the Kuwait official said "the postponement was made due to private circumstances and in response to the wish of the two parties."

On the new batch of military recruits, Shaykh Salim said that since the implimentation of the military conscription , the Kuwaiti Army for the first time holds military maneuvers , involving conscripts.

The military exersises, Shaykh Salim noted , was held for three days.

On the military exersises held between the Gulf Cooperation Council states, the defence minister said these exercises are continuous and did not stop "but we do not announce them..."

In today's graduation ceremony 132 cadets have graduated out of 151 recruits .

Daily Views Airport Attacks, Warns of Trouble

LD280854 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0707 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 28 December (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti newspaper, *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* writes today that the Rome and Vienna airport attacks yesterday only confirm one established fact, namely, that the Palestinian question "cannot be liquidated either by military operations or by political resolutions and that any solution that is not acceptable to the Palestinians is bound to end in failure and sure collapse."

"The open war against the PLO on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels," the paper adds, "will not attain the desired results and objectives even if the PLO's offices in all the Arab countries turn into debris and graveyards for all the historical leaders of the Palestine revolution."

The paper adds: "If the plots against the Palestine revolution have been stemming from more than one place and are being carried in more than one direction, they are bound to founder in the end and all the designs and schemes with all their political affiliations and military motives will fail, whether they come from the United States or the USSR.

The paper warns that "the suicide squads which began in Palestine will spread throughout the Arab and foreign worlds to prove that the world will never have any rest as long as the situation remained troubled in Palestine and that security will never prevail as long as the Palestinian right remained usurped by an Israeli settlement or wronged in the White House dossiers."

Syria, 'Arafat Urged To Settle Differences

LD301033 Kuwait KUNA in English 0910 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, Dec 30 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti daily *AL-QABAS*, Monday hoped that the Damascus agreement, signed between the three major Lebanese conflicting parties, to be success and called on Syria to settle its differences with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

"With all our heart we wish the Damascus agreement to be a success as to restore peace in Lebanon," the paper said.

It also hoped that the agreement "affirms Lebanon's Arabism."

On the other hand, the paper said that if Damascus has forgiven leader of the Lebanese Forces -- mostly Phalangists -- Elie Hubayqah "whose name is linked with the Sabra and Shatila massacres ...then why it does not open its doors to Yasir 'Arafat,

who could not be accused of treason by any wise man."

The paper, however, noted that 'Arafat's current political line will not restore all the Palestinian rights "but the man did not commit treason toward the cause and did not kill his people for the account of his enemy..."

"He who opened the door for Hubayqah can, in spite of the differences, open it for 'Arafat," the newspaper said, noting that "this initiative could be a way out of the current Arab trouble in confronting the Zionist aggression in the Middle East and all the world."

QATAR

Amir Discusses Ties With Zanzibar Premier

GF291234 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received at his office this morning His Excellency Sief Sharif Hamad, prime minister of Zanzibar. The meeting was attended by 'Ali ibn Hamad al-Ansari, minister of labor and social affairs. His excellency the guest conveyed the greetings and best wishes of Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi to his highness the amir and the Qatari people. During the meeting, they generally reviewed the Qatari-Tanzanian relations and ways to promote them in all fields. On behalf of Qatar, his highness the amir asked Sief Sharif Hamad to convey his greetings and wishes to his excelleny the president and the friendly Tanzanian people.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh Commentary Says Mossad Behind Airport Attacks

GF281344 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Through elaborate consideration of events, the planning and execution of the two terrorist attacks at airports in Vienna and Rome the day before yesterday can only be attributed to the Israeli intelligence — Mossad. Even if those who carried out the attacks are Arabs, the facts remain intact. The PLO has averred that neither the PLO nor any other Palestinian organization are connected with the attacks. The PLO emphasized, through its chairman and the Cairo Declaration, that the PLO will not carry out any retaliatory actions outside the Palestinian occupied territories. It has reaffirmed this declaration by denying that the PLO has any connections with the Vienna and Rome attacks.

Who can be behind these attacks? Israel has implemented what it vowed to do concerning strikes against Palestinians everywhere. It attacked the PLO headquarters in Tunis at the beginning of last November, defying and flouting all international conventions. Recently, Israel has stepped up its eager willingness to strike at Palestinians wherever they are found. It has been learned that its next stages for operations will be the bases of the Palestinian fedayeen in Aden and Khartoum. It must justify such open military actions even if it is only to impair vision. Thus, the attacks in Rome and Vienna may constitute this justification to strike at Palestinians wherever they are.

From these attacks Israel may also fulfill another goal: To mar the Arab and, particularly, the Palestinian reputation before the governments and peoples of Austria and Italy. It is known that Austria was the first Western country to recognize the PLO and permit it to open an office there. Since the era of its former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, it has exerted efforts toward achieving a peaceful solution to the Palesitnian problem. Moreover, Austria has good relations with the Arab world.

Meanwhile, Italy has excellent relations with the Arab world and the PLO in particular. Efforts to undermine these relations have not been successful. These efforts have included pressures exerted on the Italian Government to hand over Abu al-'Abbas to the United States for his alleged role in the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro*, in which a U.S. citizen was killed. The details still emanating from the *Achille Lauro* hijacking stress that the Israeli intelligence service Mossad was as much behind it as it is behind the attacks in Rome and Vienna.

Israel has vowed to retaliate for the attacks on the El Al offices in Rome and Vienna and to use all means to resist Arab revolutionaries. Israeli Deputy Premier David Levi emphasized that Israel will strike at Palestinians everywhere. Therefore, Israeli attacks on Palestinian bases in Khartoum or elsewhere, or any other terrorist action against Palestinians, are being justified, even if this justification is achieved through Mossad's hiring of mercenaries to attack the airports of Rome and Vienna — as we have witnessed.

Passenger on Plane Makes Threats, Arrested

GF271225 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1206 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Dec (SPA) — An official of the civil Aviation Authority has stated the following:

While a Saudi Airlines passenger aircraft, Flight 255, was enroute from Karachi to Riyadh today, with 213 passengers of various nationalities aboard including the crew, a passenger began to act suspiciously, using a razor blade in a threatening manner. Immediately, guards aboard the plane took the necessary security measures appropriate to such situations and arrested the passenger. The plane landed at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh as scheduled.

It transpired that the passenger was mentally unbalanced; drugs were found on him. The passenger was transferred to security authorities for further interrogation.

UAE

'Abdallah Departs for 2-Day Visit to Tehran

GF280946 ABU Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] His Excellency Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country today for Tehran leading a delegation on a 2-day official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran. During the visit, he will hold discussions with Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati Iranian foreign minister, pertaining to the developments of the situations in the region and bilateral relations. He was seen off by a number of ministry officials and Abolhasan J'afari, the Iranian charge d'affaires to the state.

Rome, Vienna Airport Attacks Denounced

NC271543 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Dec (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has voiced Egypt's vehement condemnation of the two terrorist operations carried out this morning in Rome and Vienna airports which claimed innocent lives. 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt deeply regrets the loss of human life no matter what the nationality of the victims.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid reiterated Egypt's firm denunciation of all acts of terrorism regardless of their source, motive, or perpetrator. Egypt is totally and vigorously opposed to such acts, he said.

The foreign minister added that Egypt has repeatedly raised the alarm over the recent wave of international terrorism. Egypt has called for an immediate end to this wave of terrorism through the radical solution of political problems, foremost of which is the Middle East crisis, so as to stop this vicious circle of violence and terror.

The Middle East problem, the foreign minister said, is a long-standing issue that deserves intensive attention and which must be realistically dealt with by the world community. This, 'Abd al-Majid asserted, will help eliminate the feeling of frustration and the subsequent repercussions of violence and terror, and thwart the designs of those who want to exploit the issue. Egypt has for years urged and made sacrifices for the establishment of a just and comprehensive Middle East solution, the foreign minister concluded.

Mubarak Cables Austrian Chancellor

NC291920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1858 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable to Austrian Chancellor Fred Sinowatz:

It was with indignation and aversion that we received the report on the terrorist action at the Vienna airport, which threatened security and endangered lives at a time when we are looking to Almighty God with hope and prayer for a better future for humanity.

Egypt, which condemns all forms and types of terrorism and which is struggling to uproot it and to end the vicious circle of violence and tension within which innocent people are paying the price for it, calls upon all governments to shoulder their responsibilities and to save the international community from this dangerous phenomenon, so as to protect human values and the heritage of civilization.

Cables Italy's Craxi

NC291930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1855 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable to Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi:

It was with indignation and aversion that we received the news of the terrorist operation that took place at Rome Airport, which threatened security and endangered lives at a time when we are looking to Almighty God with hope and prayer for a better future for humanity. Our pain is increased by the fact that your friendly country has been a stage for such treacherous operations — your country, which supports those people who struggle for right, justice, and peace, and which has not hesitated to adopt courageous principled stands in defense of the principles of legitimacy, the rule of law, and the dignity of people everywhere.

Egypt, which condemns all forms and types of terrorism and which is struggling to uproot it and to end the vicious circle of violence and tension, supports your call for the establishment of increased cooperation among the Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries in fighting terrorism and confronting its perpetrators and planners firmly and resolutely, and in making all governments assume their responsibilities for ridding the international community of this dangerous phenomenon, so as to preserve human values and our cultural heritage.

Israeli Accusation Criticized

NC272309 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2203 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Dec (MENA) — The Cairo newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* asserts that Israel's haste in holding the PLO responsible for the incidents at Rome and Vienna airports is designed to complete the operation to assassinate the PLO politically in its capacity as the legitimate representative entrusted with the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and interests.

In its Saturday issue, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that the goal behind the political assassination of the PLO is to put international and psychological pressure on the organization to wrest further concessions so that it would not make any difference if the PLO were to eventually empower other willing Palestinians to sign a document of final surrender [sakk tanazul niha'i], or if the PLO leadership were to be forced, in such a dramatic atmosphere, to give up its cards one by one without obtaining anything in return.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds that the efforts to carry out this political assassination are confirmed daily be American and Israeli propaganda. Statements by senior officials in the two countries (?are mixed) with news analyses and hints by journalists and news agency reporters. In addition, Western newspapers do not conceal their flagrant bias and make a daily commotion about terrorism and terrorists to divert attention from the preparations to deal a deathblow to substance of the issue after muzzling its guardian and fettering his hands. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* ridicules these claims and these tactics by saying that they would blame the PLO even if the acts of terrorism took place on the planet Saturn.

Talks To Be Held With Jordan, PLO in Next Few Days

NC272257 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Dec (MENA) — The Cairo weekly newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* reports that in the next few days Egypt

will hold talks with Jordan at the highest level for consultation and coordination. The paper says in its Saturday issue that Egypt will also hold similar talks with the PLO with the aim of evaluating the situation and determining if the current circumstances are favorable for an international conference and for removing the obstacles standing in the way of the PLO's participation in the conference. The talks also seek to assess the political stances of a number of countries in this respect, specifically the United States, Israel, and the Soviet Union.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM adds that no tangible progress is expected in this respect in the near future for a number of reasons, mainly because the United States rejects the PLO's participation unless it recognizes Israel's right to exist as well as Resolution 242.

Mubarak Receives Mitterrand After Private Visit
NC291800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1748 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received French President Francois Mitterrand this evening.

The French president is scheduled to end a private visit to Egypt tomorrow after spending the Christmas holidays visiting archeological sites in Luxor, Abu Sunbul, and Aswan.

Further on Meeting
NC300614 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Last night President Husni Mubarak received French President Francois Mitterrand, who is currently visiting Cairo. Mubarak hosted a dinner banquet in honor of President Mitterrand. After the dinner, Mitterrand expressed his happiness with his visit to Egypt. The French Ambassador in Cairo stated that the talks between Presidents Mitterrand and Mubarak dealt with the Middle East problems and bilateral relations in light of recent developments in the region.

10 Arrested at Sit-In Supporting Alleged Killer
HK280438 Hong Kong AFP in English 0418 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, Dec 28 (Afp) — Ten people were arrested here Friday after an attempted sit-in at Al Azhar Mosque in support of an Egyptian policeman accused of murdering seven Israeli Tourists in south Sinai in October, the paper Akhbar al-Yawn reported.

It said the sit-in was urged by Socialist Labour Party leader Ibrahim Shukri to protest against the indictment of the policeman, Sulayman Khatir.

The Council of State is to rule today on a defence request for the case to be moved from a military tribunal to a criminal court.

Soldier's Jurisdiction Transfer Plea Rejected
NC281503 Paris AFP in English 1459 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, Dec 28 (AFP) — An Egyptian policeman who fatally shot seven Israeli tourists in the Sinai last October was sentenced to hard labour for life today by an Egyptian military court, it was announced here.

Sulayman Khatir, 25, was sentenced in the town of Suez. The Council of State then refused a request by defense lawyers to have the case transferred to a civilian court.

The sentence still remains to be approved by President Husni Mubarak, who as chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces ordered the case tried in a military court.

The defense can request a presidential pardon.

Prime Minister on Khatir Case, Demonstrations
NC291101 Cairo MENA in English 1030 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, Dec 29 (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr. 'Ali Lutfi said Egypt enjoys stability and security more than any other country and emphasized that the emergency law was not used in all past events.

He added that only ordinary laws were used but said that there was nothing that prevents the use of the emergency law as Egypt is a target of sabotage acts in the coming stage.

As for the case of the Central Security policeman Sulayman Khatir who fired at Israeli tourists, Dr. Lutfi said that he received a cable from the family of Khatir three days ago before the court pronounced its sentence denouncing the events in Al-Sharqiyah (where demonstrations took place) and stressed the family's confidence in the court justice.

Dr. Lutfi called on the National Democratic Party to confront events with dialogue as in the case of the opposition parties and their papers.

The prime minister described the dialogue conducted by the NDP with the opposition elements who staged a sit in at the mosque as a constructive democratic style. He also commended the prominent role of the NDP Secretary General Dr Yusuf Wali, Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi as well as that of minister of higher education Dr. Fathi Muhammad 'Ali in confronting last week's events.

Dr. Lutfi told members of the NDP in last night's meeting that there was two thousand million dollars in cash and that the foreign banks contributed to various projects here adding that the transfer of Egyptian working abroad would be intact. [sentence as received]

The prime minister reiterated anew that the objective of raising the air tickets fares was to prevent subsidy to foreign air companies which has cost Egypt tens of millions dollars.

Dr. Lutfi further said that the hike in the air tickets fares would encourage internal tourism and would save hard currency. It is to be mentioned that many Egyptians encouraged by the subsidized air fares spent their holidays abroad.

Dr. Lutfi added that the economic policy aimed at rationalizing consumption and encouraging investment. He pointed to the government programme saying that the NDP can question the government if it failed to implement it.

Al-Azhar Demonstrators Freed on Bail

NC281634 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 28 Dec (MENA) — The supreme state security prosecutor decided to release on bail today 16 people who were arrested for demonstrating after the Friday prayers in the Al-Azhar Mosque yesterday. The bail was set at 50 Egyptian pounds for each of the accused.

Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party, had delivered a speech inside the mosque urging the worshippers to stage a sit-in therein. However, some of those who heard the speech left the mosque in a procession, which was intercepted and dispersed by the police without any casualties.

Communiques Report Khark Raids, Other Actions

28-29 Dec Operations

JN291730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Communqiue No 2,067 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 29 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing to unsheathe the sword of truth in the face of the Iranian tyrant clique, armed with the wisdom of their leader and the courage of the Iraqis.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our powerful Air Force is daily demonstrating the will of the great Iraqi people, affirming to the Iranian tyrant clique that Iraq alone will be victorious because it is in the right and because it is fighting the enemies of freedom, progress, and peace. Within the comprehensive destruction of all enemy resources, our powerful Air Force planes launched a daring raid on Khark Island installations at 1333 [1033 GMT] today. After dropping many bombs and setting fire to the island's installations, our brave eagles returned safely to the homeland, in God's care.

2. A force from our forward units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris raided enemy positions, killing four, wounding others, and destroying two rafts. Our force also captured two rifles, one RPG-7 light-caliber launcher, and a quantity of serviceable equipment. The force returned safely to its positions. Elsewhere in the same sector, our units destroyed two enemy vehicles and three rafts. One of our patrols captured a big raft and another small raft and pulled them to our positions.

3. Our artillery units in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah pounded enemy positions and engineering machinery, scoring direct hits. They also destroyed two machinegun emplacements and one infantry position. Elsewhere in the same sector and while carrying out its duties in no-man's-land, one of our patrols retrieved three rifles and two RPG-7 light-caliber launchers which the enemy had abandoned in previous battles.

4. One enemy soldier was killed and two excavators and one infantry position were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

5. The criminal enemy forces shelled Al-Faw and Mandali suburbs with long-range artillery.

6. Fresh numbers of Iranian military men sought refuge with our forces at the front. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 December 1985

27-28 Dec Operations

JN281729 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Communique No 2,066 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 28 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continue their heroic confrontation of the oppressor enemy with hearts full of love for Iraqi soil and skies and with arms which are always ready to defend the homeland's dignity, its achievements, and the happiness and security of its sons.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today.

1. The zealous sons of Iraq are daily crowning their victories with new blows to the enemy's installations and remnants, reaffirming to the misguided and suspect despotic clique that it is futile to pretend to harm Iraq's loftiness and that it stands impotent in the face of the bountiful offerings the Iraqi citizen is contributing to Iraq's persistent struggle to safeguard Iraqi territory, sovereignty, and aspirations.

Our true Air Force eagles carried out the following missions today:

a. At 1130 today our Air Force planes carried out a new raid on Khark Island, pounding their targets.

b. Our squadrons pursued their raids on enemy remnants, sowing death among enemy ranks and destruction on enemy equipment through 79 combat missions they carried out in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. After carrying out all these missions, our eagles of the air safely and triumphantly returned to the homeland under God's guidance and protection.

2. A heroic patrol of our brave formations in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, while carrying out its duties in no-man's-land, captured two enemy rafts and safely returned with them to its positions.

3. Our able artillery men pounded enemy positions opposite our positions in the II Army Corps central sector, destroying one infantry position whose occupants were killed or wounded and destroying one observation post.

4. Our heroic formations, dealing concentrated artillery blows, pounded an excavator and one vehicle and hampered the enemy's engineering work in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

5. Two large vehicles were hit in the I Army Corps northern sector.

6. Three infantry positions were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 December 1985

26-27 Dec Operations

JN271754 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Communique No 2065 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 27 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With splendid heroic performance and rare courage, our valiant Armed Forces continue their combat operations on all battlefields to crush the Khomeyniite remnants and to destroy their means of aggression in defense of the homeland's honor and dignity.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. To make the criminal despots in Iran realize Iraq's strength and ability and make them understand that their only course is to accept a just and honorable peace if they want to extricate themselves from the dilemma in which they have involved themselves and their people, and in continuation of the deadly blows which destroy all their capabilities which help prolong aggression, our Air Force planes carried out the following two missions:

a. At 1040 [0740 GMT] today our brave eagles of the air carried out a successful raid on Khark Island. Dealing precise strikes, they set their targets on fire.

b. Also at 1040 today our Air Force planes raided a very large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring an accurate and effective hit.

Having carried out these two missions, our brave eagles returned to the homeland safely in God's care. Let the Iranian rulers understand that we will continue to deal them blows everywhere and at all times until they return to the right path or go to hell, the fate they deserve.

2. Several of our forward units engaged enemy positions and troop and vehicle movements in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, inflicting losses in personnel and equipment. They also destroyed two personnel shelters and burned one vehicle.

3. Several of our forward units in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah opened artillery and mortar fire on enemy troop concentrations, gun emplacements, and other fortifications in the area, scoring direct hits and starting big fires that could be seen with the naked eye.

4. One enemy vehicle and ammunition dump were burned in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Another ammunition dump was destroyed in the II Army Corps central operational sector.

5. The forces of the rancorous enemy shelled the city of Al-Faw with long-range artillery.

6. Escaping the sanguinary regime ruling Iran, more Iranian civilians defected to our forward units. They were safely removed to the rear lines.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 December 1985

Oil Minister on Oil Reserves, OPEC Problems

JN281015 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0934 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Dec (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi has said that Iraq has drawn up a coordinated plan of surveys and explorations to define oil reserves in Iraq. In a statement today to *AL-QADISIYAH*, organ of the Iraqi Defense Ministry, Al-'Uraybi said that confirmed Iraqi oil reserves are 65 billion barrels and unconfirmed reserves, 46 billion. He noted that Iraq plans to increase its export capacity and will export the surplus in its oil reserves when projects to refine Iraqi oil are completed. He said that the pipeline to transfer natural gas from Iraq to Kuwait will be operational next May.

Regarding the appeal by the 76th OPEC session to states which produce great quantities of oil for the world market, Al-'Uraybi said that OPEC will seek to maintain its production levels for the world market in order to ensure enough revenue for development projects of OPEC countries. He urged the states concerned to respond to the OPEC appeal and bear their share of the burden of the current phase of the oil market. He said that several non-OPEC states are producing great quantities of oil, thus lowering OPEC production levels to 16 million barrels per day.

The minister pointed out that the OPEC monitoring committee, which includes Iraq, will meet next February to discuss various reactions and new conditions in the oil market and will submit recommendations in this regard to the next OPEC ministerial conference.

Irrigation Minister Returns From Brazil

JN281257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Dec (INA) — Iraqi Irrigation Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud and his delegation returned to Baghdad today after a visit of several days to Brazil. The minister told INA that he delivered a letter to Brazilian President Jose Sarney Costa from President Saddam Husayn concerning friendly bilateral relations. The minister also said that he held talks with Brazilian officials on cooperation in irrigation and agrarian reform and inspected a number of irrigation and land reclamation projects in Brazil.

Coverage of King Husayn's Summit Visit to Syria

Husayn Departs 30 Dec

JN301112 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman today for Damascus on an official visit to fraternal Syria at the invitation of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. During this visit the king will hold talks with President al-Asad on bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern, especially the situation in the Middle East.

His majesty the king was seen off by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the ministers, several senior military and civilian officials, and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Amman. He is accompanied on this visit by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan took the constitutional oath before his majesty the king and in the presence of the ministers as regent during his majesty's absence of the homeland.

Al-Asad Requested Postponement

JN272021 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
2000 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] An official spokesman of the Jordanian Royal Court has announced that King Husayn has postponed his Damascus visit, which was to take place tomorrow, until Monday. The postponement followed a telephone conversation between King Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad.

The Jordanian statement did not explain the reason for the postponement, but an informed source in Amman has said that it is linked to the present contacts to sign the Damascus agreement on a settlement of the Lebanese problem. President al-Asad requested that the Jordanian king postpone the visit for 48 hours to enable Syrian officials to continue their efforts toward signing the tripartite agreement.

Official on Summit Issues

GF271333 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
27 Dec 85 pp 1, 8

[Taha al-Nu'man dispatch from Amman]

[Text] The summit between King Husayn of Jordan and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will begin in Damascus on Saturday, a step to crown the progress of Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement which began more than 3 months ago through the efforts of the Arab reconciliation committee formed by the extraordinary Arab summit in Casablanca.

A senior Jordanian official told *AL-ITTIHAD* that there are three major issues on the summit's agenda. The first is the relationship between Jordan and the PLO leadership which has been consolidated by the Amman agreement on Jordanian-Palestinian moves, signed on 11 February 1985. The source stated that the issue does not appear to be a major obstacle.

The source added: The second issue under discussion pertains to the tense relations between Syria and Iraq. It is well known that Jordan strongly supports Iraq, while Syria's sympathies lie with Iran concerning the war between the two countries. However, the visit recently made by Taha Yasin Ramadan to Amman and the statements he made during that visit constitute new encouragement to the continued rapprochement between Syria and Jordan. The senior Iraqi official announced that his country does not object to this rapprochement. The third issue to be discussed during the meeting between the Syrian president and the Jordanian monarch is the issue of relations with Egypt while the Camp David agreements continue in effect.

The senior Jordanian source added: During the meetings we have held with the Syrians in Jeddah, Amman, and Damascus, we did not get the impression that they strongly object to the continuation of Jordanian-Egyptian relations. This means that they do not consider it to be a problem or an obstacle that stands in the way of rapprochement.

During his visit to Damascus, King Husayn will be accompanied by a large delegation to include Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; and a large number of Jordanian officials. The official makeup of the delegation has not yet been announced. Diplomatic sources in Amman stated that they expect the Syrian president to make a return visit early in 1986. The last exchange of visits between the two Arab leaders took place 10 years ago.

Commentary on Summit

JN300929 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
30 Dec 85 p 1

[Editorial: "More Than a Meeting"]

[Text] The Jordanian-Syrian summit, which will take place in Damascus today between Husayn and Al-Asad, is more than just a summit and a meeting. The strength of Amman-Damascus relations is a strength for the entire nation in confronting the Zionist enemy, as well as our nation's enemies in the entire Arab homeland.

After the meetings between the two countries' senior officials which were sponsored by the Arab reconciliation committee, it has become important to appreciate Damascus' role in the pan-Arab confrontation. King Husayn's visit will remove any illusion or allegation about the impossibility of solving the inconsequential Jordanian-Syrian differences. The visit will also foil the enemies' wager that differences between the two countries will continue. King Husayn has always been the first to call for unified and integrated Arab action, and Amman and Damascus constitute the main support for the Palestinian front.

King Husayn's visit to Damascus presents two complementary facts: First, the logic that natural unities are the basis for promoting Arab unity. This logic is a strategic trend that is

closely connected to the fateful, necessary pan-Arab confrontation with the enemy. Second, the Damascus-Amman summit and unity complement rather than contradict or rival the unionist efforts in the Arab homeland. The summit is for the pan-Arab interest and not at the expense of any Arab side or stand.

King Husayn's trip to Damascus today is a move that breathes life into the wall of confrontation through more integration of the pan-Arab role of Damascus and Amman on this front. The king's presence in Damascus also constitutes an important strategic turning point in the pan-Arab confrontation against the enemy so as to involve the entire region in this confrontation. It has been proved that the Syrian-Jordanian role is strategic and constitutes an axis for pan-Arab polarization. Coordination and integration between Syria and Jordan are essential for complete pan-Arab steadfastness. Every step by Amman and Damascus in this direction is a step blessed by all Arabs. The pan-Arab strategy of both countries is clear; we are wagering on the establishment of a pan-Arab axis, the supreme requirement and slogan of our time.

Information Minister Condemns Vienna, Rome Attacks
JN272115 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib has condemned the terrorist operations directed against Vienna and Rome airports today. He said: We in Jordan strongly condemn these terrorist acts directed against two civilian airports and as a result of which a number of civilian victims were killed. He said that Jordan's policy in this regard is clear and based on condemning international terrorism, regardless of its source and the identity of its perpetrators. Jordan regards such acts as a mark of shame and disgrace to humanity at large. He concluded by saying: The Italian and Austrian authorities, which are investigating these incidents, are called upon to punish the perpetrators. Moreover, Arab and international public opinion will undoubtedly condemn and denounce such terrorist and criminal acts.

King Husayn Receives Phone Call From King Fahd
JN291932 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received a telephone contact from His Majesty Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this morning. They exchanged views on a number of current issues as well as on the latest developments in both the Arab and international arenas. They also discussed the close relations between the two fraternal countries.

Cabinet Approves New Electoral Procedures Bill
JN300849 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Amman — The Cabinet approved the House of Representatives' new electoral bill in a meeting yesterday under Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. The approval came after two Cabinet sessions that were held yesterday and the day before yesterday and that lasted about 10 hours. The bill will be referred to parliament to complete the constitutional procedures.

The new electoral bill increases membership in the House of Representatives to 130 members representing both banks of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It also revises election procedures, beginning with the registration of voters and ending with the announcement of election results, taking into consideration economic and political progress that has been attained during the past 25 years. The present electoral law was issued in 1960. The new electoral bill takes into consideration the requirements of that progress as well as the changes that have taken place in the administrative areas during that long period.

The electoral bill includes major and significant changes affecting the right to vote, electoral rolls, nomination for membership in the House of Representatives, electoral constituencies, election procedures, counting of votes and announcement of results, election campaigns, and electoral offenses. The new electoral bill is a step forward in the process of developing legislations of a significant, public nature in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Israel Pushing Situation to 'Collision Point'
JN280900 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
28 Dec 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Zionist Threats to Syria"]

[Text] The Israelis are overly tense about what they term "the serious problem" resulting from the deployment of Syrian missiles on the border with Lebanon and are deliberately and systematically pushing the situation to a collision point in order to create a new equation in the region.

The fabrication of the Syrian missile issue has coincided with several other developments which are all forming elements of pressure on the Israeli entity.

Foremost of these developments is the Arab detente embodied in the Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement and the increasing international conviction, even inside the United States itself, of the idea of convening an international peace conference and concluding the historic Lebanese agreement which is to be signed in the next few days in Damascus — an agreement which would end the Lebanese crisis and allow Lebanon to devote itself entirely to confronting the Israeli occupation of the border strip.

The Israeli enemy, which has previously succeeded in achieving its aggressive, expansionist objectives in the absence of joint Arab action and because of Arab divisions, will remain indifferent to developments taking place around it and contrary to its own wishes. The Syrian missile issue is one of the crises which the enemy is using as an excuse to carry out its aggressive policies and achieve its expansionist designs. Yitzhaq Rabin's openly arrogant threats to Syria yesterday are pushing the situation to a collision point and revealing enemy intentions to start a flareup in the region in order to destroy all possibilities of achieving the just and lasting peace sought by the international community.

Reportage on Signing of Tripartite Agreement

Birri Leaves for Damascus

NC271213 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri left Beirut for Damascus this morning. He will participate in putting the final touches to the tripartite agreement prior to the signing.

Forces Authorized To Sign

NC280746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] At an expanded Christian meeting held in Bkirki last night at the invitation of apostolic administrator Bishop Ibrahim Hilu, the Lebanese Forces were authorized to proceed with their plans to end the war. According to one participant at this meeting, the conferees told the Lebanese Forces that they had no objections to the draft agreement being signed, provided it would be an agreement between the fighters' leaders and that it would be able to end the state of war. The conferees also said that they reserved the right to express an opinion on the political aspect of the agreement after it is given to the Chamber of Deputies and government.

It is understood that the conferees have authorized the Lebanese Forces to go ahead with an agreement to end the war. However, they have not authorized these forces to implement the agreement's political aspect. This was made clear by Monsignor Ignatious Marun in a statement after the meeting. He said: Our discussions took place in an atmosphere of complete frankness and understanding. However, matters require further definition. It has therefore been decided to hold additional meetings in order to formalize views. Officials cannot take positions which will be in the interests of only one Lebanese faction, whether it be Christian or Muslim. They must take positions which will be in the interests of all Lebanese people and of Lebanon, both now and in the future.

Monsignor Marun added: The apostolic administrator will hold exchanges in this respect. After the agreement is signed, if it is signed, successive meetings will be held. This is an issue which concerns all Lebanese people, and everyone has been eager to safeguard the interests of all Lebanese citizens. As to the date on which the agreement will be signed, this is an issue which concerns the signatories.

After the participants in the expanded meeting departed, a second meeting was held among the Apostolic administrator, Elie Hubayqah, Samir Ja'ja', Abbot Nu'man, Ghanim, Paqraduni, and certain bishops. Hubayqah declined to make any statement.

Michel Samahah arrived in Damascus last night. He has assured Vice President Khaddam that the Lebanese Forces will sign the agreement. He briefed the Syrian official on the atmosphere which prevailed at the Christian meeting in Bkirki and on the gist of the discussions held and the stands adopted.

Sources among the conferees pointed out that former President Sham'un, his son Dany, Dr Elie Karamah, Deputy George Sa'dah, Dr Samir Ja'ja', and Abbot Bulus Nu'man are the people opposed to the tripartite agreement.

Hubayqah Views Syrian Relations

NC280803 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] An expanded Christian meeting was held in Bkirki last night at the invitation of apostolic administrator Bishop Ibrahim al-Hilu. Citing sources at the meeting, some of today's papers report that Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, has affirmed his intention to sign the tripartite agreement because the Lebanese Forces have committed themselves to do so. This agreement, he said, is the only way to stop the fighting; there is no alternative to end the state of war. He pointed out that he alone is committed to his stand. All of the agreement's provisions, he stated, will follow the constitutional course and be quitely discussed by the Lebanese people. The agreement will be referred to the Chamber of Deputies and to the cabinet. It will then be submitted to the president for signing. In this way, the agreement will be the subject of give and take.

Hubayqah also emphasized that the Syrian Army will not enter the eastern areas. Concerning relations between Syria and Lebanon, he said that committees will be formed to define all issues while taking into consideration the freedom of expression. He noted that it is impossible to separate the state of war from political reforms.

Hubayqah Arrives in Damascus

NC281149 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1136 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Report from NNA correspondent in Damascus]

[Text] Eli Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, arrived in Damascus at 1310 today at the head of a delegation representing the Lebanese Forces and Christian functionaries. The delegation includes Karim Paqraduni, Saj'an Qazzi, former Minister Fu'ad Butrus, former Minister Michel al-Murr, Deputy Ilyas Hirawi, and Deputy Khalil al-Dahir. The tripartite agreement will be signed in few moments, at 1330, after all the parties from the National Unity Front and the Lebanese Forces have arrived.

Birri, Hubayqah, Junblatt Sign

NC281234 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1219 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive committee, Minister Nabih Birri from the Amal Movement, and Minister Walid Junblatt from the Progressive Socialist Party signed the tripartite agreement in the presence of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam at 1330 today. Also in attendance at the signing were members of the Lebanese Forces delegation, which includes Karim Paqraduni, Antoine Bridi,

Sij'an Qazzi, Jean Ghanim, Elie Aswad, Charles Ghustin, As'ad Shaftari, Michel al-Murr, Michel Samahah, former Minister Nasri al-Ma'luf, former Minister Khalil Abu Hamad, former Minister Fu'ad Butrus, and Deputies Ilyas al-Hirawi, Mikha'il al-Dahir, and Melkon Eblighatian; and members of the National Union Front Munir Abu Fadil, 'Abdallah Sa'adah, George Hawi, 'Asim Qansuh, 'Umar Harb, Zahir al-Khatib, Sharif Sa'diyah, Muhsin Dallul, Deputy Nazih al-Bizri, and Mustafa Sa'd. The signing was also witnessed by members of the Tripartite Committee Marwan Hamadah, Akram Shuhayyib, and Muhammad Baydun.

Information Ministry Report

NC281327 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1315 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Report by radio correspondent Wasif 'Awadah in Damascus on 28 December — live or recorded]

[Text] The Information Ministry's mission greets you from Damascus. The announcement that the tripartite agreement among the three Lebanese parties — the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Lebanese Forces — has been signed was made at this very moment. Journalists are now entering the conference hall to cover this event. The signing of the agreement has just taken place.

'Text' of Agreement

JN291840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1623 GMT 29 Dec 85

["Full text" of "national agreement to solve the Lebanese crisis" signed in Damascus on 28 December 1985 — read by announcer]

[Text] National Agreement To Solve the Lebanese Crisis.

Preamble:

Amid the tragic, extraordinary circumstances that have been afflicting Lebanon, the conferees have drawn up a national solution based on our people's aspirations toward liberating the land from the Israeli occupation, restoring security and peace to the homeland, and establishing a sound, democratic regime by upholding justice and equality, both politically and socially, and realizing the Lebanese people's ambitions in all fields. This solution requires a comprehensive national commitment and pan-Arab strength represented in implementing special relations with fraternal Syria, which did not and will never spare any effort, under president struggler Hafiz al-Asad's leadership, to deliver Lebanon and protect its independence, unity, and Arab affiliation and to lead it toward a democratic solution for its various struggles.

Chapter I: General Principles.

Lebanon's Identity: Lebanon is an independent, free, and sovereign state in terms of its territory, people, and institutions within its boundaries outlined in the Lebanese Constitutions that are internationally recognized. It is of Arab affiliation and identity; an active, founding member of the Arab League; and is committed to the various Arab League charters. The state embodies these principles in various fields and areas without exception. Lebanon is also a member of the United Nations and is committed to the UN Charter.

Lebanon's Unity: Absolute adherence to Lebanon's unity. All partition plans, all forms of discrimination, and all proposals of political decentralization such as federations, cantons, and decentralization in security and development are rejected. This position makes inveitable the imposition of personal safety and settlement in any Lebanese site in any form and regardless of the periodd of this settlement.

The Political System: Lebanon is a democratic, parliamentary republic established on the basis of respect for public freedoms, particularly the freedom of opinion and creed. It is also based on the principles of separation of pwoers and social justice and equality of duties and rights of all citizens, without any discrimination or preference, within a free economic system based on comprehensive scientific planning of various resources, needs, and activities in all areas. It is a country of human dignity and cultural ambitions.

Lebanon's Liberation:

1. Continuing the escalation of resistance to liberate Lebanon from the Israeli occupation, liquidate its direct as well as indirect presence, reject all sorts of security arrangements and their suspect tools, and thwart any local tool that is tied to or dealing with the occupation.

2. Providing all resources and pooling all official efforts to back the national resistance in the south in terms of manpower and funds, in its capacity as the main base for the process of liberation and the correct basis for unifying Lebanon.

3. Supporting the firmness and steadfastness of the southern Lebanese citizen on his land by providing human, material, and economic means of development.

4. Working to implement Resolution 425 and all UN Security Council resolutions pertaining to comprehensively removing the Israeli occupation and rejecting all Israeli conditions and restrictions.

5. Adhering to the armistice agreement signed on 23 March 1949.

Chapter II: The Principles of the Political System.

Efforts to strengthen the spirit of national growth and democratic practice require replacement of the current sectarian formula with a national one that can guarantee the people's participation and representation in a political authority capable of expressing the people's aspirations and ambitions on the national level and on the basis of freedom, social justice, equality, equal opportunities, development, and security. Hence, it was agreed that the building of Lebanon's future and the establishment of a modern, developed state that is free from the legacy of the past necessitate the cancellation of the sectarian system. As a result, a new

constitution will be drafted on the basis of reinforcing the homeland's unity, independence, Arab affiliation, and democratic system, as well as on full equality among the citizens. This constitution, which will be drafted within 1 year at the most, will include the following basic principles and provisions:

1. The Lebanese system is republican, democratic, and parliamentary.

2. The people are the source of authorities and will practice their national supremacy through constitutional institutions as outlined in the future constitution.

3. The Lebanese are equal before the law and enjoy equal civil, political, and social rights and assume public duties witout any discrimination.

4. Regarding the assumption of public positions and posts, No Lebanese has any special privileges apart from his qualifications within the legal conditions.

5. Personal freedom shall be safeguarded and protected by the law and the freedom of belief shall be protected. In this regard, stress is put on Article 9 of the current Constituion, as well as on public freedoms regarding opinion, expression, education, parties, societies, residence, labor, election, gatherings, possessions, and trade union work. All these should take place within the limits of law on a par with democratic countries.

6. The economic system shall be considered as free, organized, and capable of guaranteeing individual initiative so long as it does not conflict with the general order and public interest. This system is based on a comprehensive scientific development of various energies, needs, and activities in all areas. It is also based on a long-term development plan, considering Lebanon's unity an indivisible unit.

7. Social justice shall prevail; social cooperation shall be considered a national obligation; national educaiton shall be the citizens' right and duty. Compulsory education shall be provided for all citizens through the end of the intermediary course.

8. A new election law will be drafted to secure the broadest and best representation on a national basis and to consider each province as one electorate in order to safegaurd national unity and to express the will to coexist. All citizens — men and women — have the right to vote when they become 18 years old in accordance with conditions defined by the Constitution.

9. A senate will be established to assume, together with the Chamebr of Deputies, legislative powers regarding fateful issues: Amending the Constitution, war and peace, international treaties and agreements, factional civil status, the citizenship law, the senate elections.

10. The new government will immediately form a preparatory committee to draft the new country's constitution in preparation for approval.

The Stage of Moving Toward Complete Non-Sectarianism:

1. Moving from the sectarian formula to another formula that guarantees national cohesion under the canopy of the democratic, parliamentary, republican system involves a transitional and gradual stage toward complete non-sectarianism. At this stage, reforms and measures of a consitutional, systematic, and legal nature mentioned in this document will be adopted in accordance with the following:

A. A new government will be formed immediately. The beginning of the transitional stage will be the date this government is formed.

B. The stage of ending the state of war in Lebanon will be no more than 1 year beginning with the date of forming the new government in accordance with what is stated in Chapter V of this agreement.

C. The present Chamber of Deputies will be entrenched and expanded after forming the new government by appointing new deputies in accordance with the principles of equal sharing between Muslims and Christians and equality among the three greater sects, and on the basis of the numbers determined by this agreement. Within a period of 1 year at the most, all legal and constitutional texts relating to implementing the transitional reforms mentioned in this document will be applied.

D. The transitional stage will end when the Chamber of Deputies makes a decision to determine the beginning of the date for working for a total concellation of sectarianism in accordance with the following:

a. After the restoration of a normal situation in the country, the government will call for electing a new Chamber of Deputies on the basis of a new electoral law in accordance with the principles mentioned in this agreement.

b. During the second half of the term of the first elected Chamber of Deputies, the government will propose a plan to determine the date for beginning work to cancel sectarianism in parliamentary representation, the three executives [the prime minister, the president, and speaker of the Chamber of Deputies], the ministries, and class A jobs equivalent jobs. The majority required for approving the plan will be two-thirds of the members of Chamber of Deputies.

c. If the plan is not approved, the vote required for its approval will become 55 percent beginning with the second half of the term of the second elected Chamber of Deputies.

d. If the plan is not approved the cancellation of sectarianism in parliamentary representation, in the presidencies, the ministries, the class A jobs or those equivalent, during the first half of the term of the third elected Chamber of Deputies, will be decided legally.

Chapter III: The Rules of the Transitional Stage.

During the transitional stage, and in order to establish sound balance in jurisdictions between the legislative and executive

powers, along with guaranteeing the independence of the judicial system under the canopy of the democratic, parliamentary, republican system, the following rules will be adopted and the constitutional or organizational laws and articles will be issued, amended, or suspended in accordance with the principles that would guarantee their application:

In the Executive Power:

I. The President of the Republic:

1. The Election of the President: After reforming the conditions of the legislative power in accordance with the principles that will follow, the majority required for electing the president of the Republic will be 55 percent of the legal number of the Chamber of Deputies in the sessions that will follow the first session. The legal quorum for conducting elections in all sessions will be seven-tenths of the number of members of the Chamber of Deputies.

2. The Powers of the President of the Republic:

A. The president of the Republic is considered the head of state and symbol of the country's unity. He is responsible for respecting the constitution and for safeguarding Lebanon's independence, unity, territorial integrity, and national unity. The president of the Republic shall take a constitutional oath.

B. The president of the Republic is considered the supreme commander of the Army.

C. The president of the Republic signs all decrees and issues laws within limited periods after approval by the competent authorities. He also transfers draft laws to the legislative power. He also has the right to oppose [laws], in accordance with the principles stated in this document, within the periods defined in it. During the 40-day period, the president of the Republic shall also issue all the laws of a top-priority nature that the Council of Ministers transfer to the Chamber of Deputies.

D. The President of the Republic names the prime minister and issues decrees forming the cabinet in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this chapter. He will also issue decisions considering the cabinet as resigned in cases enunciated in this document. Until the legislative power is reformed by increasing the number of deputies in accordance with this agreement, the government will be formed in accordance with the requirements of reconciliation and in a way conducive to implementing this program.

E. The president of the Republic presides over and participates in discussions — with no voting power — during meetings of the following:

1. The Supreme Defense Council.

2. The Council of Ministers in limited cases pertaining to approving the policy statement that defines the policy of the government; declaring a state of peace or war, general mobilization, or a state of emergency; dissolving the Chamber of Deputies; and approving a constitutional draft law, election law, budget law, and general amnesty.

3. The president of the Republic can call the cabinet into emergency session in certain cases when the country is seriously threatned.

4. The president of the Republic can call the cabinet into session once a month at most in order to discuss draft laws that he may have turned down, provided the agenda of such sessions does not include any other topics.

F. The president receives credentials, receives diplomatic representatives, and presides over official receptions.

G. The president grants state medals.

H. The president is not held responsible for the consequences of his exercising his powers except in cases which the constitution terms as high treason.

I. The president grants special reprieves and proposes and issues the general amnesty law.

J. The president issues decrees accepting the resignation of any of the cabinet ministers after agreement by the prime minister. He can ask any minister to resign after agreement by the cabinet.

K. Whenever the need arises, the president can address messages to the Chamber of Deputies and the ministers if he deems it necessary.

L. He chooses the emplyees of the presidency from among the employees of the state administration.

II. The Council of Ministers.

1. The Council of Ministers is composed of its chairman, a number of ministers of state, and ministers with ministerial portfolios. The necessary quorum for a cabinet meeting is two-thirds of its members.

2. The executive power will be the prerogative of the Council of Ministers, which exercises all executive and administrative powers and draws up the state's general policy in its capacity as the body solely responsible to the legislative pwoer and the people. These powers include:

A. Drawing up the state's general policy in the political, economic, defensive, financial, developmental, educational, and social fields as well as in other areas.

B. Drawing up draft laws and decrees, making the necessary decisions to implement state policy, and assigning top-priority precedence to draft laws whenever it deems this necessary.

C. Ensuring implementation of laws and regulations and monitoring the performance of all state organs and establishments, including the military ones.

D. Enacting and canceling the state of emergency as well as war, general mobilization, and international treaties and agreements, taking into consideration the prerogatives of the legislative power.

E. Directing and coordinating the work of the ministries and all state administrations and general establishments.

F. Drawing up the state budget bill and laying down comprehensive and long-term development plans.

G. Dissolving the Chamber of Deputies by a justified decision and calling the Chamber of Deputies into extraordinary sessions.

H. Appointing class A employees or their equals and asking them to resign or accepting their resignation in accordance with legal practice.

III. The Ministerial Council.

The Ministerial Council is made up of the prime minister and the government's ministers and makes its decisions on a consensus basis. In case of dispute, the issue will be presented to the Council of Ministers to make the appropriate decision. This Council's duties are:

1. To continue efforts to achieve the required reform in all areas.

2. To continue efforts to implement the plan to end the war within the period defined for it.

3. To continue efforts to secure transitional conditions for implementation of the new constitution.

4. To propose the broad lines of state policy and to define its basic options to be presented to the Council of Ministers.

5. To prepare for and present to the Council of Ministers plans, trends, and concepts.

6. To approve all decrees that do not need a decision from the Council of Ministers including relieving one or more ministers of their posts.

7. The members of the Ministerial Council are considered members of the Supreme Defense Council.

8. The General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers comprises a number of assistant secretaries general, councillors, and specialized persons who form a special organ for the Council of Ministers — an organ which is linked to the prime minister and which carry out any work demanded by the Council of Ministers.

IV. The Prime Minister.

1. The prime minister presides over the Council of Ministers meetings in all cases except in other cases mentioned elsewhere in this document. He also conducts sessions, proposes agenda, and participates in discussions when he has the right to vote.

2. He presides over meetings of the Ministerial Council in all cases.

3. He accepts the resignation of one or more ministers and refers the decree to the president.

4. He is the deputy of the head of the Supreme Defense Council.

5. He oversees implementation of the Ministerial Council's recommendations and decisions and the Council of Ministers' decisions and follows up the work of ministries and departments.

V. The Formation and Resignation of the Government and the Time Limits for Issuing Laws and Decrees.

1. The government is formed in accordance with the following procedures:

A. The president holds mandatory parliamentary and political consultations and, in light of them, issues a decree naming the prime minister-designate.

B. Following parliamentary and political consultations, the prime minister-designate forms the government and presents a list of the government members to the president. If he agrees, he issues decrees.

C. If the president refrains from signing the decree within 2 weeks after receiving the list, the prime minister-designate will submit his case to the parliament. If his viewpoint wins 55 percent of the parliament members' votes, the president should issue the decree. If the parliament does not approve the government, the prime minister will be considered as relieved of his post and consultations will be renewed.

D. If the prime minister refrains from presenting the list of government members to the president within 1 month following his designation, he will be considered incapable of forming the government. In this case, consultations will be renewed.

2. Following this agreement, the government will be formed and the prime minister and ministers will be named in accordance with the requirements of the accord in order to implement this program. This will continue until the legislative power is reformed by increasing the number of parliament members in accordance with this agreement.

3. The government should win parliament's confidence.

4. All decrees and draft laws will bear the signatures of the president, the prime minister, and the minister concerned, taking into account the powers of the Ministerial Council, except in naming the prime minister or accepting the cabinet's resignation or considering the cabinet as having resigned in the following cases:

A. If the prime minister resigns.

B. If the Council withholds confidence.

C. If half of the cabinet members resign.

5. A 30-day period will be given for signing draft decrees and decrees of transferring laws approved at the Council of Ministers by the president of the Republic or turning these decrees down within this period for justified reasons. This period will be effective from the date the draft decrees are submitted to the general directorate of the presidency of the republic. When the period ends without signing or turning down the draft decreess for justified reasons, the decree will be effective by law. If he turned it down, it will be resubmitted to the Council of Ministers, and if the Council of Ministers insists on its decision, the president of the Republic then shall sign the decree. These periods also apply to ordinary decrees.

In case of differences, and if the prime minister and the minister in charge of the draft so decree, the draft decree then will be transferred to the Council of Ministers for settlement. The same period will be given to the prime minister and the Ministerial Council as of submitting the draft decrees for their general secretariat. However, laws approved by the Chamber of Deputies will by applied within periods stated in Article 56 of the current Constitution.

In the Legislative Power:

1. During the transitional stage, popular representation will be expanded by increasing the number of deputies to 198 in a manner that will achieve the soundness and justice of this representation within the framework of equal sharing between Muslims and Christians and equality among the three greater sects in accordance with the principles of this document until the sectarianism in representation is canceled after the end of the transitional stage.

2. In order to allow elections to be held, temporary appointment of deputies shall take place to fill vacant seats, seats that may become vacant, or those seats newly made by the Council of Ministers.

3. The speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, his deputy, and members of the Chamber of Deputies will be elected for 2-year terms renewable.

4. During the transitional period, the government shall be granted exceptional powers for legislation in all fields except the state's general budget for 1 year renewable.

In Civil Service Jobs:

1. The rule of sectarian representation shall be canceled in civil service jobs, the judicial organ, and security and military institutions. In order to guarantee just implementation of this principle, the rights of wronged sects shall be settled within a period of 6 months.

2. Exception to this cancellation are class A jobs or their equivalent in the public and mixed administerations and institutions, independent institutions, and the judicial organ. These jobs shall be within the framework of equal sharing between Muslims and Christians. In no way will this mean a monopoly of any job by any sect.

3. During the transitional stage, the government will supervise the reforming and purging of the state's civil and military institutions in accordance with the principles mentioned in this document.

In the Supreme and Constitutional Courts:

A supreme concil for trying presidents and ministers as stated in the Constitution and a constitutional court to control the constitutional nature of laws and to settle all conflicts resulting from parliamentary and presidential elections shall be formed. The president of the constitutional court shall be appointed in accordance with the Council of Ministers proposal and approval by the Chamber of Deputies.

In the Social and Economic Council:

A Social and Economic Council to represent economic, social, trade union, and scientific functionaries shall be established. The law shall determine the fields of specialization of this council.

In the Administrative Decentralization:

The administrative system stated in Legislative Decree No. 116 dated 12 June 1959 to reinforce the administrative decentralization shall be reexamined:

1. By increasing and redistributing governorates in a manner that will secure the citizens' interests and national cohesion.

2. By strengthening municipal councils and unions and governorates and expanding their powers.

3. By adopting popular representation in councils in the governorates.

4. By transferring most administrative responsibilities and duties from the central authority to the local authority, thus facilitating and speeding up services for the people.

5. By reforming the judiciary in order to ensure direct services to disputant parties.

Note: The prerogatives of the establishments mentioned in this agreement, in accordance with the new Constitution, will be confined to economic reform and development as follows:

1. Laying down a policy of economic rehabilitation and reconstruction and comprehensive development which will be defined in a coordinated, clear program and which will be supervised mainly by the state. This will require a speedy reform of its administration, an enhancement of its performance, and the forming of specialized administrations or expansion of existing ones. The provisions of this program aim at revitalizing the various sectors of national economy on the basis of integration and harmony, taking into consideration the need to preserve natural and environmental wealth, provided this is based on the principle of free economy.

2. Devoting special attention to areas that were affected by war and to those areas that have been deprived for decades. A development plan should be drawn up for these areas so that the best possible income and wealth can be distributed among citizens and areas and so that fair, integrated developmental equilibrium can be realized for the hemeland.

3. Working to realize comprehensive social justice through financial, economic, and social reform; adopting the 5-year plan in economic and financial planning of the budget; and completing the stages of generalizing the social security system, including security for the aged and ensuring free medical care for all citizens.

4. Preserving private property and individual enterprise, which must not harm the public interest. This requires reforming taxation laws, monitoring their application, protecting the rights of the treasury, and supporting the structure of the public sector.

5. Drawing up a comprehensive housing program, giving first preference to displaced persons and those who were harmed by the war, and encouraging cooperative housing societies.

6. Drawing up a comprehensive program to utilize water resources and implementing projects that meet this desire, particularly the Al-Litani River project.

Education and Learning:

1. Placing education and learning in the service of building the future Lebanon on national, nonsectarian bases and utilizing Lebanon's manpower.

2. Supporting education in a way that will lead to spreading it and making it general, free, and compulsory; developing educational programs; and unifying educational curricula, particularly books on history and social upbringing.

3. Supporting formal education on all levels and stressing the national role of the university of Lebanon by giving it the necessary and sufficient backing, particularly in the technical colleges, in order to allow it to play its role in uniting the Lebanese society and making room for all the Lebanese people to acquire the necessary level of education to promote their economic, social, and cultural development.

4. Stressing the role of technical and vocational education by giving it first preference and linking it to the comprehensive construction process in Lebanon.

5. Preserving the system of private education.

6. Supporting scientific research by providing the necessary assistnce for public establishments in this field.

Concerning the Issue of Nationality:

1. Enacting a new law of nationality and settling outstanding issues that are being discussed. Special courts will be formed to look into problems of nationality for 1 year.

2. Canceling the mention of religion on identity cards.

In the Military and Security Fields:

1. The Army:

The Army's basic task is to protect the nation from any foreign aggression, particularly Israeli aggression against Lebanon. The Army's most important role in this regard is resisting the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory. As for reconstructing the Army, this will be effected in accordance with a nationalist, ideological creed to whose principles all Army personnel will be committed and which will be based on the principles that define Lebanon's identity and affiliation with its Arab surroundings. The Army's structure will be in harmony with Lebanon's pursuit of strategic coordination and integration with Syria.

In accordance with this concept, the following principles will be adhered to:

A. The duties of the Army are defined within the Supreme Defense Council in accordance with the defense law.

B. In order to rehabilitate the Army, it is to be withdrawn to its camps in accordance with a comprehensive security plan to be approved by the national unity government, which will demand Syria's help during that rehabilitation in the following fields: training courses, exchange of expertise and information, and national cohesion.

C. The national unity government will make decisions and measures to work out programs from rebuilding and rehabilitating the Army in accordance with the principles in this document, including the drafting of a new defense law.

D. The Army will be kept away from internal and political conflicts.

E. The complusory military service law will be implemented immediately.

F. Army intelligence work is restricted to military and tactical security.

2. The Internal Security Forces:

The duty of maintaining security in Lebanese territory is entrusted to the internal security forces. These forces will thus be reinforced in equipment and numbers and their central organs and regional units will be reorganized as quickly as possible. This requires recruitment so that the forces can be used effectively to protect the citizens' security in all Lebanese areas. Organs for collecting information will also be reinforced.

3. The Public Security:

The public security should be strengthened so that it can carry out the basic duty represented in controlling the international border in addition to its other duties stipulated in the laws and

regulations that govern its work, such as issuing passports and taking care of foreign nationals. This requires units to protect land and sea borders as well as ports and airports except the border with Israel, which is the duty of the Army.

4. The defense, internal security, and public security laws will be amended to implement the principles of this document.

Chapter IV: The Distinguished Relations Between Lebanon and Syria:

The most prominent meaning in Lebanon's Arabism lies in its distinguished relationship with Syria and its inevitable, fateful link to Syria. Proceeding from this principle, relations should be based on a strategic integration concept between Lebanon and Syria because their fateful issues are one as a result of their affiliation, history, and geography, a fact that requires a high degree of coordination in various fields. We believe that Lebanon's distinguished relations with Syria should be genuine so that every understanding between the two countries can be included in clear-cut bilateral agreements which will be translated into legal frameworks in both countries in order to prevent any political party from tampering with these firm principles. Thus, relations will not remain at the mercy of whims, interests, and regional and international factors.

The word "integration" in this agreement means the following: The potentialities and capabilities of each country should complement the potentialities and capabilities of the other in order to reinforce each country's situation and achieve their joint interests, on the condition that this would be defined and interpreted within the framework of the bilateral agreements mentioned in this agreement.

The areas of the distinguished relations between the two countries are wide and diversified.

1. In the field of foreign policy:

Complete and firm coordination should cover all Arab, regional, and international issues on the condition that the two countries agree on the requirements of this coordination, one after another and in accordance with proposed issues and subjects, so that they can take positions on them. In this regard, direct, guaranteed, and secret means of communications should be provided for senior officials in charge of foreign policy in both countries.

2. In the field of military relations:

The fateful struggle which Syria is waging in its effort to establish a strategic parity with Israel as a result of well-known Arab circumstances, such as the exclusion of Egypt from the arena of struggle and the emergence of Arab-Palestinian axes with the aim of confusing Syria politically, militarily, and in the field of security, makes it incumbent on Lebanon not to allow itself to be the gateway through which Israel can deal any blow to or threaten Syria. Therefore, agreement must be reached to allow stationing of Syrian military units in specific points in Lebanon that will be defined by joint military committees in accordance with the requirements of the Syrian and Lebanese strategic security until such time as the Lebanese Army is rebuilt and rehabilitated in accordance with a national, militant ideology that will differentiate between the genuine friend and the true enemy and which will be in harmony with Lebanon's affiliation and national options. When such an army, which will have defensive tasks against the enemy, is completely built, it will take its real, strategic role in the strategic balance in the region through its role on Lebanese soil.

3. In the field of security relations:

The saying that Lebanon's security is part of Syria's security and that Syria's security is part of Lebanon's security is correct. It should be implemented on the ground through Lebanese-Syrian security integration that will be expressed in the following:

A. Joint definition of the main threats that endanger the security, independence, and system of government in both countries.

B. Unified view toward such primary threats, and hence an agreement on deep-rooted remedies for such threats that will be commensurate with the soveriegnty of both countries and which will realize their cherished goal. These remedies will be administered by the competent local organs in both countries.

C. Agreements should be approved to ensure coordination among the security organs, each in accordance with its interests in both countries and in the two countries' interests.

4. In the field of economic relations:

Coordination and integration will be maximized in this field despite the different systems of government. As for the organizing of this coordination, it will be defined by an expert committee from both countries that would supervise proposing of bilateral agreements and laws implementing them.

5. In the field of educational relations:

Coordination in the field of education is the pillar of entrenching kinship between the future generations of both countries through a national upbringing based on Arab affiliation and the correct practice of this affiliation. This coordination will be effected through joint committees that will draw up nationalist, integrated educational bases. Within this framework, and in accordance with the principles of educational reform in Lebanon, the freedom of education will be preserved, taking special care to prevent this freedom from becoming a new seed of division among the Lebanese people or creating hostility toward the Arabs and Syria.

6. In the field of information:

Ensuring the continuation of the special relations without sabotage is represented in preventing any Lebanese-generated media attacks against such relations. This requires that the Lebanese media be on a high level of national and pan-Arab responsibility and adhere to the principles and aims enunciated in the national policy that is agreed and approved constitutionally and legally, taking into consideration the respect of the freedom of opinion and expression.

7. The practical application:

Upon the beginning of the transitional phase of the national solution project, the new government will form a ministerial committee that will supervise the provisions of this chapter and put it into practice.

Chapter V: The Mechanism of Ending the War.

The phase of ending the war in Lebanon will be limited to 1 year beginning with the date the new government is formed. During this year, all constitutional and legal texts pertaining to implementing the transitional reforms of this document will be approved and implemented. The mechanism of ending the war is based on the following principles and rules:

1. Immediate cease-fire with Syria's help, opening roads and crossing points, and stopping supplies of weapons and ammunition by land, sea, and air.

2. Strengthening the role of the security committee and expanding the area of its jurisdiction to include all Lebanese territory. Representatives of the internal security forces and Syrian officers will be included in this committee. Accordingly, Syrian forces will be stationed in agreed upon points, which will lead to extending moral support and military backing to the internal security forces during the phase to end the war in accordance with a comprehensive security plan which the national unity government will approve.

3. Strengthening the internal security forces and general security, opening the door to recruitment, and entrusting the internal security forces with the task of safeguarding security in all Lebanese areas in order to spread the state's authority in these areas without exception.

4. Liquidating the militias and military and paramilitary organizations in their various forms and working to dilute their elements in the country and in the nation's institutions.

5. Collecting weapons, with the state to buy them from both the Lebanese and non-Lebanese parties.

6. Ensuring the freedom of movement for Lebanese citizens and guaranteeing their work and residence in all parts of Lebanon.

7. Finding a deep-rooted solution for the problem of displaced Lebanese persons; recognizing the right of each displaced Lebanese person since 1975 to return to his land, house, and work; enacting the necessary laws that guarantee this right; and ensuring the necessary means to begin rebuilding. The return of displaced persons will begin within 3 months of the formaiton of the new government. This return will gradually continue in light of the available security requirements and will completely end within 3 years.

[Dated] 28 December 1985

Joint Statement Issued

NC291950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Joint statement on the 28 December signing of the Lebanese tripartite agreement, issued following a meeting of the Tripartite Committee in Damascus on 29 December; read by former Minister Marwan Hamadah — recorded]

[Text] Following long and in-depth negotiations characterized by a spirit of national responsibility, during which all issues, subjects, and matters that could end the civil war and remove all of its effects and consequences were discussed, Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progerssive Socialist Party; and Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, signed an agreement providing for a national solution to the Lebanese crisis. The agreement provides concrete and comprehensive solutions to all issues, so as to restore security and peace, revive national unity, permit the return of displaced people, end the issue of those who have been kidnapped, regulate government institutions and their jurisdictions, assert Lebanon's Arab identity and its distinctive relationship with Syria, and organize means by which the south may be liberated from the Israeli forces.

A number of meetings were held by the signatories of the agreement during which they agreed upon the ways and means of implementing the agreement and the practical measures required for this purpose.

While they have begun work to close the black pages of the past, they appeal to all Lebanese people to shoulder their responsibilities in the process of reconciliation and peace, in order to safeguard Lebanon, its identity, its dignity, and the future of its people. They assert that they are determined to implement their agreement and to confront anyone who tries to tamper with the future of the country and the aspirations of the Lebanese.

The conferees also express their profound thanks to and appreciation of fraternal Syria, under the leadership of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. The bold qualitative move represented by the tripartite agreement could not have been initiated or sustained had it not been for the colossal and relentless efforts exerted by Syria to save Lebanon and to ensure the success of its march toward reconciliation. Thank you.

Officials Comment on Tripartite Agreement

Karami Hopeful

NC282059 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Commenting on the signing of the tripartite agreement in Damascus today, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said: We hope that it will do some good. Any solution is better than the situation we now live in. If the present situation continues, the end will be painful and a catastrophe for all.

Junblatt Says 'Must Implement'

NC281909 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], told journalists today that the signing of the tripartite agreement is a step forward. When asked if there would be any exchanges of shellfire in the future, Junblatt said: I hope that we will never again conduct our dialogue through mutual shelling. This is simply not the way to find solutions, to establish the democratic and pan-Arab identity of this country, to express our nationalist feelings, or to defend the legitimate rights of the Palestinians.

Junblatt continued: Something else happened today. I received a new year's greetings card from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, bearing his own signature. This is a good sign.

Asked about the composition of the new government, Junblatt simply said: I do not know. He responded to another question on the implementation of the agreement by saying: I have no idea; we will see. He answered another question by saying: We must implement the agreement to protect Lebanon against both domestic and external threats and to defend the rights of the Palestinian people.

Junblatt was asked whether he believes that the agreement will be a success. He said: This is a technical question involving the practical measures for its implementation. He was then asked if all of the details have been discussed. He said: Not yet, but they will be. Asked whether he is optimistic, he responded: I am always practical.

Birri, Ministers Remark

NC281653 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1528 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Report from NNA correspondent Wasif 'Awadah in Damascus, Syria on 28 December — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] A long period of difficult talks and negotiations, lasting more than 3 months, among the parties engaged in the conflict in Lebanon — the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the Lebanese Forces — ended at 1600 today when a tripartite agreement was signed by the three parties in the office of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The signing took place in the presence of a large number of Lebanese leaders and prominent figures.

After lunch at the Sheraton Hotel, Minister Nabih Birri spoke to reporters. He said in reply to a question that there is no doubt that the agreement that was signed today has ended a period in Lebanon's history that began in 1860. Minister Birri said: The signing is a great event, but what matters now is implementation.

Replying to another question, Minister Birri said: It is important that we approach implementation constructively.

Former Minister Al-Murr said: Today's event here is a first step toward the salvation of Lebanon. It is also the first step toward ending the war. He asked: What is the alternative to agreement? It can only be war, of course.

Minister Joseph Skaf issued a statement, saying: I attended the meeting and the signing of the tripartite agreement at the express wish of His Excellency Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and because of our desire to achieve the sublime national goal: to end the war and to establish a new homeland, on the basis of a new pact.

Minister Skaf continued: Our views on the contents of the agreement accorded with those of Mr Khaddam. His excellency briefed me on the most important provisions of this agreement and the stages it covers. I am satisfied that the agreement will certainly have positive results at various levels in Lebanon. This agreement gives the Lebanese reason to hope for a long truce, which would enable them to engage in dialogue and to reach an understanding on a new constitution, which would achieve equality, ensure justice and equality of opportunities, and save Lebanon's unity and independence.

Minister Skaf said: I would like to sum up our position on this agreement as follows: First, in addition to ending the state of war, which has been the hope of the Lebanese for more than 10 years, and realizing that the Lebanese people see it as the means for a return to normal life, work, production, and reconstruction, our view of it is that it is a national agreement and not a sectarian or confessional one — albeit the negotiations were conducted by three parties representing three different sectarian groups, the main fighting groups in Lebanon. On this basis, we hope that this agreement will be a national one that will win semi-unanimous, if not unanimous, approval from all Lebanese.

Second, we, as one of the leaders of the Greek Catholic community and the head of the Al-Biqa' parliamentary bloc, take the principled position that the days of past internal complications and Israeli protection have come to an end. The time has come to replace these complications and protection with internal guarantees, to be given to all Lebanese and to all Lebanese communities. The legitimate authority provided for under the tripartite agreement will be the only guarantee of the rights of all groups within the Lebanese people.

The Lebanese information minister said: I think that the fact that the agreement was reached by the three parties under the auspices of fraternal Syria, led by President Hafiz al-Asad, and due to the persistence of our Syrian brothers on various levels, particularly of Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, is the best guarantee of its implementation and its viability.

Minister Skaf added: In the light of these national considerations and in view of what we have seen in our talks, we think that this agreement is a national one, which will guarantee Lebanon's future and restore the unity of its people. We bless it, and will work for its success with every means at our disposal. We think it is the best possible agreement in the difficult circumstances currently affecting Lebanon.

I would like to point out here that we learned a little while ago that President Hafiz al-Asad will receive Ministers Birri and Junblatt and Mr Hubayqah tomorrow. No time has been set as

yet for this meeting. The text of the tripartite agreement signed today will be released at the end of that meeting. Thus, the text of the agreement will be announced tomorrow.

Birri, Khaddam 'Happy'

JN281523 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Louis Faris report from Damascus]

[Excerpts] A meeting ended in Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office a few moments ago. During the meeting the three leaders, Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, and Elie Hubayqah, signed four copies of the tripartite agreement, which is 23 pages long.

The feelings of jubilation and optimism in Lebanon's day in Damascus cannot be expressed by words. Everyone says the civil war has ended. Nabih Birri told us that he is very happy. Elie Hubayqah told me that his feelings of jubilation equal those he felt on his wedding day.

Khaddam hosted luncheon in honor of all three leaders and all those who participated in the meeting.

Khaddam Affirms Syrian Support

JN282002 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this afternoon received Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP); and Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee. Talks revolved around the Lebanese crisis and the negotiations held among the three Lebanese parties that led to a draft agreement to end the civil war in Lebanon.

Khaddam welcomed the three Lebanese parties' meeting on the road to national accord. He reviewed the history and development of the Lebanese crisis and the damage caused by its continuation to Lebanon, the Arabs, and the Arab nation's pan-Arab cause. He said that Syria's policy toward the Lebanese problem has been a principled, firm policy that President Hafiz al-Asad stressed in various occasions in standing beside the fraternal people helping them proceed on the road to security and national accord as well as in maintaining Lebanon's independence, the unity of Lebanese territory and people, and its Arab affiliation.

Khaddam pointed to Israel's exploitation of the Lebanese crisis and its repeated attempts to influence Lebanese developments. He said the Israeli exploitation of the Lebanese crisis posed a grave danger to Lebanon which had to be confronted. Hence, there was Syrian determination, which President Hafiz al-Asad announced, that the Lebanese file should be closed and that the Lebanese brethren should be helped to proceed on the road to national accord and to end the abnormal situation that existed in Lebanon.

Khaddam reviewed Israel's repeated attempts in the past to prevent the Lebanese from reaching an agreement. He said that Israel has been defeated, as it was previously defeated, by turning its invasion of Lebanon into military and political failure and by the downfall of the 17 May agreement. It was evident that the Lebanese had a serious desire to reach an agreement. Thus, negotiations were held and an agreement was reached.

Khaddam welcomed the tripartite agreement. He said that President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed that Syria is for all Lebanon and for all the Lebanese and is not in favor of one Lebanese group at the expense of the others. He said that Syria will continue to support the accord process with all its resources because there is no solution for the Lebanese crisis except through dialogue among the Lebanese and Lebanese national accord.

Khaddam called on all Lebanese sides to support the tripartite agreement that ends the civil war in Lebanon. He appealed to the Lebanese sides that have so far hesitated to support the agreement to support it and to enter the door of dialogue, peace, security, and national accord which can accomodate all the Lebanese and guarantee what they seek in terms of security, coexistence, and the unity of the homeland and people.

After the meeting in Khaddam's office, the tripartite agreement to end the civil war in Lebanon was signed. Signing the agreement were Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, and Elie Hubayqah. Attending the signing ceremony were a number of Lebanese politicians as well as representatives of Lebanese parties, bodies, and blocs.

Hubayqah Returns, Comments

NC300626 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee; former Minister Michel al-Murr; and Michel Samahah returned to Beirut last night after a series of exchanges in Damascus with Syrian officials and parties to the tripartite agreement. Dr Jean Ghanim, the representative of the Lebanese Forces in the Security Committee, stayed behind in Damascus to follow up on certain security affairs.

Hubayqah described the atmosphere at the Damascus talks and the signing of the tripartite agreement as positive. He expressed his belief that if matters continue along this course, the agreement will be implemented very quickly. He ruled out any obstacles and pointed out that agreement among those who can make decisions on the spot and implement them will eliminate any possible obstacles.

Hubayqah said: This agreement must not be like others that have gone with the wind. This agreement must be executed as soon as possible. Implementation could start within 1 week. The formation of a new government should be the first clause to be implemented. He added: We are ready to talk and meet with all parties to ensure that the implementation of the agreement will follow the charted course.

Hubayqah thanked President Hafiz al-Asad, saying: I believe that the fact that President al-Asad is sponsoring this agreement means that there is a major guarantee that the agreement will be carried out to the letter.

Syria's Al-Shar' Arrives To See Al-Jumayyil

NC300953 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' arrived at the B'abda Presidential Palace around 1130 today, carrying a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Brings Message on Accord

NC301036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' arrived at B'abda Palace at 1120 this morning. President Amin al-Jumayyil received him in the presence of Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk. Al-Shar' will convey a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to President al-Jumayyil, in connection with the recent agreement among the Lebanese Forces, Amal Movement, and the Progressive Socialist Party.

According to available reports, a new Lebanese-Syrian summit between Al-Jumayyil and Al-Asad will be held this Thursday.

Confirms Meeting With Al-Asad

NC301100 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The Syrian-Lebanese summit will be held in Damascus on Thursday, 2 January. This was announced by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', who left B'abda at 1230 today following his meeting with the Lebanese president. Al-Shar' noted that his meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil is part of the ongoing communication between the two capitals to serve Lebanese interests.

President Amin al-Jumayyil is at this moment meeting with Yuriy Suslikov, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Lebanon.

Group Threatens To Execute Kidnapped Jews

NC281555 Paris AFP in English 1548 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Beirut, Dec 28 (AFP) — The Oppressed of the Earth, a group that executed a Lebanese Jewish hostage Tuesday, warned here today that three other Lebanese Jews it is holding would be executed if Israel failed to free 300 prisoners from a prison camp in southern Lebanon.

In a communique published by the Lebanese daily *AL-NAHAR*, the organization said it would continue to "execute spies" if Israel did not comply with its demands, but did not set a deadline.

The group claimed responsibility for the kidnap of four Jews on November 17, and on Christmas Eve said it had killed one of them, Kohen Halaq, whose body was later found.

The kidnappers countered a refusal by Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to negotiate by saying they were not interested in talks either.

They demanded that Israel stop "daily bombings" of south. Lebanese towns and free Arab prisoners it is holding at the Khiyam prison camp controlled by the Israeli-backed south Lebanon army in the buffer zone Israel has imposed beyond its northern border.

The Superior Council of Lebanon's Jewish community says seven Jews are unaccounted for since March. About 400 Jews still live in Lebanon, down from around 6,000 in 1967.

'3 March' Group Promises Anti-French Operations

NC300825 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 25 Dec 85 P 5

[Text] An unidentified person contacted the *AL-SAFIR* offices yesterday, claiming to be speaking on behalf of the 3 March Organization [Munazzamat 3 Adhar]. He declared that this organization was responsible for blowing up the branch of the French bank in Hurj Thabit in Sinn al-Fil on 21 December. The caller read a statement which says in part: "We warn the French Government that the coming days will be hellish for France. France must see to it that all our demands are met." He added: "Blood will be shed on the 3 March anniversary. The French authorities will be responsible for the death of innocent victims because all French institutions throughout the world will be our targets."

Gunboats Reportedly Sighted Off N. Shore

NC292127 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Security sources have informed us that gunboats were sighted at approximately 2230 tonight off the shore of Al-Sa'diyat and opposite the Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps in north.

Palestinian Front Prepares for Israeli Raids

NC291722 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] The Palestinian democratic front [not further specified] has issued a circular to all of its positions in Lebanon asking them to take precautions today against possible Israeli raids.

Six Israeli Aircraft Carry Out Mock Raids

NC301030 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Six Israeli planes flying in formation carried out mock air raids in the area between Sawfar and Bayt Miri this morning. It

has been observed that the Israeli planes released a new type of thermal balloon larger than those the Israeli Air Force previously used in defense against Syrian missiles.

A formation of Syrian planes carried out reconnaissance flights at low altitude over the northern area between 1000 and 1200 today.

Beirut Airport Security Measures Increased
NC281408 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1152 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] It seems that the recent incidents at the Rome and Vienna airports have also had an effect on Lebanon. The airport's security apparatus today increased security measures in and around the airport, as well as along the road leading from the airport to the Cocodi area. Security men are preventing cars from parking in the airport's main lot. In order to maintain public safety, citizens are not allowed to gather inside the lounges. This measure is also being enforced in an attempt to avoid Israeli reaction or any other action which might be taken in reply to the Rome and Vienna incidents. Staff Brigadier General Sami al-Shaykhah, the chief of the security apparatus, personally followed up the security measures and gave the necessary instructions to security men.

Amal, Palestinian Gunmen Clash in Sabra 29 Dec
NC292055 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2030 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] At 1900 today, clashes involving the use of rockets and medium-caliber weapons took place in the area of Sabra between Amal and Palestinian gunmen. The clashes lasted until 2100, interrupted briefly by a cease-fire at 2030. Security sources attributed the clashes to a dispute that took place near the Al-Sharq cinema.

In another development, the town of Rum was subjected to artillery shelling originating from east of Sidon at 1600 today. Finally, violent clashes erupted at 1300 today on the Kafr Falus-Lib'a-'Ayn al-Mir-Kafra combat line.

King Husayn Arrives for Summit, Speaks With Al-Asad

JN301145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan arrived in Damascus at 1200 today on a visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad headed those who received King Husayn at Damascus International Airport. The king was welcomed as he descended from the plane by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib, Syrian Charge d'Affaires in Amman Najib Abu Salih, and Jordanian Charge d'Affaires in Damascus Nayif al-Habib.

President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn walked to the dais, where they took the salute while the band played the Jordanian and Syrian national anthems. At the same time, a 21-gun salute was fired in honor of the guest. The president and King Husayn then reviewed the guard of honor. Later, King Husayn shook hands with those who received him: the deputy prime ministers, the ministers, the governor of Damascus, heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions, and the staff of the Jordanian Embassy in Damascus.

After the reception, the president and King Husayn proceeded in an official motorcade to the Guest Palace in Damascus, where a meeting was held between the president and King Husayn. The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash; Wahib al-Fadil, minister for presidential affairs; and 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs. It was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the royal court; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, court minister; and Tahir al-Masri, minister of foreign affairs.

Al-Shar' Interviewed on Summit

LD301200 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1058 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Kuwait, 30 Dec (KUNA) — In a press interview published here today, Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' expresses hope for a successful outcome to the Syrian-Jordanian summit, stressing that Syrian-Jordanian encounters "have so far made positive and constructive steps."

In an interview to the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, he says that Syria expects the Damascus summit between President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria and King Husayn of Jordan to achieve "a greater and broader understanding between the two fraternal countries, particularly concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict and ways to face it through serious pan-Arab common action."

The Syrian foreign minister further says he hopes the summit "will trace the correct path for pan-Arab common action following a long period of disputes and contradictions on the Arab scene, which have all helped many of our Arab brethren from assuming their pan-Arab responsibilities to the central issue of the Arabs."

Al-Asad Meets, Addresses Lebanese Forces Delegation

NC291647 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpts] At 1030 today Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee; former ministers Fu'ad Butrus, Michel al-Murr, Michel Iddih, and Khalil Abu Hamad; Deputies Mikha'il al-Dahir and Ilyas al-Hirawi; and Lebanese Forces delegation members Karim Paqraduni, Michel Samahah, Antoine Bridi, Jean Ghanim, Charles Ghustin, Elie Aswad, Saj'an Qazzi, and Majir Khuri. The meeting was attended by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs.

President Hafiz al-Asad addressed the Lebanese Forces delegation led by Elie Hubayqah and the Christian functionaries, saying: We support you strongly in the implementation and protection of the tripartite agreement. Our position toward you is exactly as it was in 1976. I believe that you know of my speech at the time in which I rejected the concept of a vanquished people in Lebanon. He added: We in Syria are happy about the signing of the agreement. However, the process certainly requires follow-up. The basis of and ideas by which to initiate action and to try dialogue in solving the Lebanese crisis have now been established. This was done in Syria because we reject the military option. Our policy in that respect has been clear from the very start of the conflict. We do not want victors and vanquished or militarily victorious parties. What some people believe to be military victories are not really so because the victory of one Lebanese party over another Lebanese party is no victory at all.

President al-Asad continued: We in Syria have gained many enemies in Lebanon, the Arab world, and the world at large because of this stand. Some people said at the time that Syria was killing Muslims in the interest of the Christians and that it was supporting the rightists against the progressives, communists, and leftists. We paid a heavy price and lost many friends in Lebanon. We fought some of our traditional friends at certain stages. All of this is because Syria does not act on the basis of sectarian principles, neither in Lebanon nor anywhere else.

The Syrian president explained developments in Syria's relations with the Phalangist Party over the years and how the leadership of the Ba'th Party in Syria became convinced of the importance of this relationship despite differences in ideologies. He said: Some people exploited our relationships against us, but we decided to overcome the issue.

Syria's Al-Asad added that the Syrian military entry into Lebanon was opposed by both the United States and the Soviet Union. He said: Murphy came at that time — he was his country's ambassador in Damascus — to convey to me an Israeli warning based on Israel's stated desire to protect the Christians. I told him: If the Jews are so concerned about the Christians, then they should not have killed Jesus Christ. President Al-Asad went on to say: There was a setback in our relations with the Soviet Union. Certain commitments between us came to an end. It was difficult for them to understand the nature of our relations with Lebanon.

The Syrian president then reviewed the development of Syria's role in Lebanon and its interaction with the Christians. He said: Our relations with the Phalangist Party did not achieve results. We also had difficulties in West Beirut. We look on Lebanon as one people. We act on the basis of historical facts and not on falsehoods. Even former president Camille Sham'un proposed union with Syria in 1976, within the framework of a confederation among Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria. We are not against unity, and are not ashamed of this, but our role in Lebanon today is separate from unionist ideas. The Arab unity in which we believe might be concluded between Syria and the other 20 Arab countries, but cannot be concluded with Lebanon. We want Lebanon to unify itself. We want it to be a sound and strong body; we want the massacres there to stop. Then we can talk about other things. We refuse to force a union between Lebanon and Syria either today or tomorrow, even though more than one program for union has been proposed to us. We rejected these plans because we do not wish to employ cheap tactics.

Syria is not putting a price on its efforts in Lebanon because the issue is not that of being paid. This would damage Syria's dignity before it damaged Lebanon's dignity. President Al-Asad added: Extracting some price might be beneficial internationally, but we still reject it. We are the champions of a cause. The Ba'thist regime, which succeeded previous Syrian regimes, was the first to recognize Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and unity. Previous regimes never mentioned these words or viewed Lebanon as an independent state. It is true that we are one people, but we are two states. The issue of unity is a far-ranging and strategic one.

On relations between Syria and the Lebanese Forces, Al-Asad said: We once regarded the Lebanese Forces as mere tools of Israel. When the dispute broke out between them and the Phalangist Party, this impression was strengthened. I do not hide the fact that we prepared military brigades to face this event. However, the matter appeared differently to us later. It transpired that major issues are not tackled with selfish motives. We decided to engage in contacts with the Lebanese Forces and promote a relationship. It is true that some kind of relationship existed between the Lebanese Forces and Israel, but it was subject to circumstances and reflected views to which both history and education have contributed — the Christians fear Syria and the Arabs and see the Arabs as Muslims, who oppose the Christians. Of course, Arab reactionaries do exist, and if there is a need to confront them, let us do so together.

As a matter of fact, we are happy with the clarifications that have been provided us. They allowed things to take a new direction. Our positions are not based on hatred.

President Al-Asad then talked about the agreement. He said: Syria is prepared to provide all possible support, political and otherwise, for the implementation of the agreement with the fewest possible losses. We must think together about means of implementing the agreement, in order to restore Lebanon's health.

President Al-Asad continued: No one who possesses an iota of conscience would permit the situation to remain as it is. If at any point in time we can end the crisis, we must not delay. The return of the displaced is essential. This is Syria's position, and it will not change.

The Syrian president said: Everyone supports the agreement in principle. However, the chosen roads have not been the same. Now the primary forces in the conflict have signed the agreement, and the difficulties should be reduced. We support the agreement, for anyone who stands against it stands against Lebanon.

Turning to the Christian personalities in the hall, he said: Your role is no less important than that of the Lebanese Forces in implementing the agreement. You are part of Lebanese society. No one doubts your patriotism. You must try to convince the largest number of people, particularly those who oppose the agreement, to join the cause. This agreement is the criterion for the coming stage in Lebanon. For our part, we will begin to contact officials and personalities who must support the agreement. Those who signed the agreement are able to implement it, and we support them in this effort.

He finally turned to Mr Hubayqah and the Christian delegation, saying: We are with you with all of our might.

Meets Visiting Lebanese Leaders

JN291415 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1315 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] At 1415 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party; and Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib.

At 1300 President Hafiz al-Asad received Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies; Joseph Skaf, acting minister of information and interior; Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party; Nazih al-Bizri and Zahir al-Khatib, Lebanese deputies; 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon; George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party; 'Abdallah Sa'adah, deputy leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party; 'Umar Harb, secretary general of the Socialist Union; 'Ali 'Id, secretary general of the Arab Democratic Party; Sharif Safiyah, from the national front in 'Akkar; and Marwan Hamadah, Akram Shuhayb, and Muhammad Baydun, from the Tripartite Committee for negotiations.

Subject of Talks Detailed

JN291634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpts] At 1415 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement; Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party; and Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee.

Talks revolved around the Lebanese situation and the tripartite agreement signed yesterday to end the civil war in Lebanon. The president congratulated the Lebanese on signing the agreement, which is aimed at eliminating the abnormal situation that existed in Lebanon due to the civil war. He praised the new spirit of accord which allowed the drafting of the agreement as well as the high feeling of responsibility toward national Lebanon and the Lebanese. He expressed hope that the agreement will result in creating an atmosphere of national reconciliation that leads to real national accord — an accord that will preserve the unity of Lebanese territory and people, Lebanon's Arab role and secure fraternal coexistence among the Lebanese, and equality and justice. The president pointed to the importance of cooperation among the Lebanese to implement the tripartite agreement to end the civil war and achieve its objectives on the ground.

The president expressed conviction that all Lebanese who are eager to safeguard Lebanon's unity, independence, Arab role and affiliation, and future will not delay their support for the tripartite agreement and contribute to work aimed at ending the civil war and achieving national accord. The president affirmed that Syria will continue to stand beside our Lebanese brethren and provide every possible assistance to help them move from the abnormal situation to a situation in which Lebanon will enjoy health, well-being, security, and national accord. The president said that Syria will not hesitate to exert every possible effort to render Lebanese efforts to turn the agreement ending the civil war into a reality on the ground a success.

TISHRIN Hails Agreement

JN290739 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 29 Dec 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the signing of the tripartite agreement on Lebanon, *TISHRIN* says: With the signing of the agreement in the presence of such a large congregation of Lebanese personalities, fraternal Lebanon has begun a new phase of closing the war page and beginning the process of harmony, accord, and peaceful coexistence. It is indeed a great achievement, and its significance lies in the fact that it returns Lebanon to all of its sons, removes the factors of coercion and fear, lays the foundations of equality in rights and duties, and achieves equality of opportunities for the citizens.

The paper continues: Throughout the period of contacts and negotiations among the influential parties, Syria has been concerned that the solution should be a purely Lebanese one tackling the roots of the crisis so that it will not turn into a temporary truce. Thus, Syria has exerted every effort so that the solution will take the interests of all the Lebanese into primary consideration. It can be said with full confidence today that the tripartite agreement constitutes a real solution, sets the foundation for a new Lebanon, and responds to the aspirations and ambitions of the Lebanese.

TISHRIN concludes: Syria, which as often reiterated by President Hafiz al-Asad is for all of Lebanon and all of the Lebanese, will continue its sincere efforts so that the agreement will be translated into real accord on the ground and definite general security and stability. It will also foil any enemy attempt to undermine the process of harmony and fraternity. It will unite the Lebanese so their rifles will be aimed at the enemy in the south to force it to withdraw without any conditions, thus ensuring the return of the steadfast occupied south to the motherland. Undoubtedly, joint Syrian-Lebanese action in the next phase will provide the positive atmosphere enabling Lebanon to surmount its tribulation and regain its normal life and distinguished role in the region.

Commentary on Israeli Threats, Syrian Stand

JN281437 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Israeli rulers are vying with one another through statements made on all occasions to exacerbate tension in the region, spread an atmosphere of war and armed confrontation, and seek, through these statements, to obstruct any real international effort for seeking an international framework for serious peace efforts in the Middle East based on the UN resolutions dealing with Palestine and the Middle East.

Yitzhaq Rabin made a new statement yesterday on what they in Israel call the Syrian missile crisis. We do not know what number we should give this statement, which is one of the many statements Rabin has made on this topic. In his new statement, Rabin claims that he does not want to make threats. While saying this, however, he makes implicit but clear threats.

Rabin says Israel will act in accordance with its own considerations, at the place and time it deems fit, and with the methods it chooses. Rabin adds that Israel cannot overlook the developments which have occurred on the ground and the impact they have had. Rabin continues his threats in another way. He says he will not give any details either on what Israel will do in this field or on the date or the course to which Israel will resort.

We clearly understand what Rabin wants to say. It is no surprise to us and does not constitute a new element in the state of affairs that Israel has created. It also does not strengthen the Israeli stand and does not lead to any weakness in the stands of the other parties. As was the case with previous statements, this statement does not scare anybody. It will not lead to a change of any stand and will not make one cancel measures.

Let Rabin, Peres, Shamir, and other Israeli rulers know, as all those concerned with Middle East affairs already know, that Syria cannot be addressed in the language of threats. In defending its rights and the rights of its nation, Syria fears no one. The readiness of the people in Syria to repulse aggression and transform it into a losing adventure is a great and unswerving readiness.

The Israeli rulers may feel a sense of power as a result of the sophisticated war tools and the political support the United States had provided them or will give them in the future. They

may imagine that the leakage of reports on nuclear experiments in the Negev Desert could affect the nerves of those who confront Israel's designs and the U.S. scheme to impose its hegemony on the Middle East, its resources, and peoples. However, this wishful thinking is misleading. Aggression is always condemned by the world at large. Military power alone, if not based on justice, will always lead to failure and frustration.

As for those who defend rights and land, they have, in addition to moral strength, the necessary power to teach the aggressor the necessary lessons that would make the aggressors who are suffering from megalomania, arrogance, and the fever of war and aggression view things within their true perspective.

It is known that the world is not the inalienable property of the United States and that sophisticated weapons are not possessed by it alone. It is also known that Israel does not have a free hand in the Middle East and that it cannot do what it wants without retribution. Those who take the initiative and introduce any kind of weapon into the region will not be safe from its effects and will not succeed in preventing others from possessing it. As is known, he who initiates any wrongdoing is always considered to be the unjust party.

Those who are versed in sophisticated weapons and weapons of destruction know which party can be more affected or can suffer more from such weapons. Those who believe that the Middle East — which is near the borders of one of the two major military powers in the world, that is, the socialist bloc countries —will be left alone for the adventurer and aggressor Israeli rulers to tamper with it as they wish and to ignite in it the fire which could set the entire world on fire will be committing a grave mistake.

Dear listeners, the Israeli leaders need someone to make them return to their senses and define to them the limits they cannot exceed if they do not want to receive a severe punishment. In view of its relations with Israel, the United States would be doing a good deed if it performs such a task before it is too late. Any new Israeli adventure will inevitably do great harm to the United States, which stands behind Israel's actions. As for Syria, it will not budge an iota from its rights.

Al-Kasm Receives Bulgarian Trade Official

JN281350 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus —Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Petur Bashikarov, first deputy minister of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Trade, at 1200 today. Attending the meeting were Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, economy and foreign trade minister, and the Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting, Bashikarov handed Dr al-Kasm a message from Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and conveyed his greetings to him.

Talks revolved around the existing firm cooperation between Syria and Bulgaria, the strong friendship relations linking the two countries, and bolstering the development of bilateral relations in all fields. Talks also dealt with a number of issues relating to trade between the two friendly countries.

The prime minister was acquainted with the talks that the Bulgarian deputy foreign trade minister is holding with officials in Damascus and expressed his satisfaction with their results.

Peres' Statements After Terrorist Airport Attacks

Libya Center of International Terror

TA300530 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 30 Dec 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] Prime Minister Peres last night accused Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhahafi of "drumming up hatred and extremism," while Defence Minister Rabin tended to blame the Abu Nidal fringe of the PLO for the attacks on Friday at the Vienna and Rome airports.

Referring to those attacks, Peres called Libya "the world center of international terrorism," and charged the Libyan leader with "the indiscriminate killing of men, women and children."

Peres was speaking at the 50th anniversary celebration of Ha'oved Hatziyoni (the Independent Liberals Workers Section) at the Israel Goldstein Youth Village in Jerusalem.

Peres made this statement after the Cabinet heard detailed reports about the Rome and Vienna airport massacres. The Cabinet secretary issued a brief statement, saying that the prime minister extended the government's condolences to the families of the victims and expressed appreciation of the "courage and initiative that were displayed in hitting the terrorists and capturing them."

Some observers feel that the war against terror has to be conducted on two levels: the silent, secret war, as well as overt retaliatory strikes that would illustrate to the world and public opinion in Israel that terror cannot be tolerated or allowed to go unpunished.

Israel must however, take into account the consequences of any campaign against terror. If, for example, Israel were to launch an airstrike against terror bases in the Al-Biqa Valley, this could prompt the Syrians to use their SAM-2 missiles recently deployed on the Lebanese-Syrian border, thus opening the way for an escalation far beyond the problem of dealing with terror.

Officials have recently pointed out that perhaps one of the worst things Israel could do in the war against terror was to "act in a way designed to cater to public opinion," or allow itself to be pushed into "hasty action."

Peres said that "all European nations" that grant shelter, equipment and diplomatic recognition to terrorists were responsible for the weekend terrorist attacks. "All countries lax in airport security as well as in diplomacy are extending a cooperative hand to international terror." Peres denounced the weekend attack as a "barbaric ploy" to inhibit peace efforts between Israel and Jordan.

"It's irrelevant who eventually claims responsibility for the attacks," said Peres. "Whether it is Abu Nidal, Nayif Hawatimah or George Habash, we must not give in to the PLO. As long as that organization stands for terror, we will fight them all the way."

Observers in Jerusalem suggested that the Vienna and Rome airport massacres, which received wide and outraged coverage in the U.S., have in great measure "compensated" for and blanketed out the Pollard espionage affair in U.S. public opinion. Moreover, the observers suggested, they have driven the Syrian missile crises off front pages in Israel and in the West, which may enable the Syrians "in the coming two-three days" to quietly remove the SAM-6 and SAM-8 missile batteries recently pushed into Lebanon. The widespread publicity and repeated Israeli public warnings to Syria may have persuaded the Syrians that Israel intended to strike at the SAM-2's.

No U.S. Appeal for Restraint

TA301350 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1335 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister has made a statement about the Syrian missiles. Mr Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Israel reserves the right to work for its own interests and will do so whenever and wherever it sees fit. The prime minister also said that there has been no appeal from the United States to Israel to show restraint over the acts of terrorism that occurred recently in Rome and Vienna.

'Arafat Pursuing Terrorism

TA291615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister has said that Yasir 'Arafat is pursuing terrorism and avoiding decisions, which is why King Husayn will have to decide whether he wants to join the peace negotiations without the PLO. Mr Peres said this to three U.S. Congressmen and added that no organization dealing with terrorism, or countries that provide assistance to terrorism, should be forgiven.

Government To Fight With All Means

TA271715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this evening expressed deep shock over the massacres in the Rome and Vienna airports. The prime minister's statement says that the attacks emphasize the urgent need for the nations of the world to immediately organize against all forms of terrorism, and to prevent terror from raging on. The statement says that terrorism is blind, and whoever justifies any form of terrorism must realize it will hurt him as well. The Israeli Government will protect its citizens in Israel and abroad, and will fight the terrorists and those who send them with all its means.

Rabin: Security Forces Preparing To Foil Attacks

TA290853 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 29 Dec 85 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Tali Zelinger]

[Excerpt] The security forces are preparing to react to and foil attacks following warnings of attacks against Israel and Israelis. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told *DAVAR* yesterday: "We

have warnings about more intentions to attack everywhere in a variety of ways, from all directions, and we are doing everything possible to prevent this." This week marks 21 years since the establishment of Fatah, and apparently this is the background of some of these many warnings.

Over the weekend security sources clarified that the attacks on the Vienna and Rome airports did not come as a complete surprise to Israel because there were general warnings pointing in this direction. At the same time, however, no kind of preparation can completely prevent the attacks. The reaction to the attacks is also not necessarily an immediate one, and actions of deterrence and reaction are ongoing.

Shamir: Israel Must Rely on Itself Against Terror

TA300641 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0508 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Interview with Vice Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Shalom Qital in the studio and Shim'on Schiffer in Shamir's residence — live]

[Excerpt] [Qital] Good Morning, Mr Shamir.

[Shamir] Good morning.

[Qital] Mr Shamir, we hear there are different attitudes in the United States regarding terrorism. On the one hand, the White House and the National Security Council call for restraint, and on the other, we hear that George Shultz is willing to give Israel freedom of action. How do you regard the different hints coming from the United States?

[Shamir] I must say that in the ongoing and daily dialogue we maintain with the U.S. Government we do not perceive differences of opinions or differing notes. There is an unequivocal denunciation of terrorism, and everybody realizes the importance of fighting this dangerous phenomenon, which endangers the entire world.

[Qital] Often after such incidents as occurred in Rome and Vienna last Friday, people have said that the Western world must unite against terrorism. Today such a call is like an outdated coin; the question is whether this coin can be recirculated, whether the world will do something it has not done to date.

[Shamir] Well, you talk of an outdated coin; unfortunately terrorism is still very much in circulation, and occasionally it reveals its cruel and inhuman face. We in Israel who serve as prime targets for Palestinian terrorism, which leads in international terrorism, should certainly not count on the ability of the Western world to organize and unite against terrorism. We must do our job while encouraging all the Western factors to do their part, to organize and unite. However, any kind of international organization is complicated, difficult, and lengthy. Meanwhile, we must do our part.

[Schiffer] Mr Shamir, when we talk about Palestinian terrorism, we must say that it is really politically motivated terrorism. Have Israel and you yourself done enough to solve the political aspect of the Palestinian problem in order to end Palestinian terrorism?

[Shamir] We must not be led by a tendency which is prevalent in the Jewish people to justify those who plot against us and harm us, as though we have not done enough to compensate and conciliate them. Throughout Israel's existence, and even prior to that, we have made extraordinary attempts to reach a compromise and peace with our neighbors. On the other hand, our Arab neighbors, whether countries or organizations, have never accepted Israel's compromise offers. They have attacked and continue to attack us, and this expresses their boundless hatred of us and their with to annihilate and destroy us, and if they cannot destroy the state, this finds expression in a desire to kill as many of its citizens as possible.

[Schiffer] With your permission, let us pass to another problem, that of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday said that Syria has changed the rules of the game. Mr Vice Prime Minister, what are these rules of the game between Israel and Syria in Lebanon, in what way has Syria violated them, and what are your expectations?

[Shamir] I do not want to go into the precise details of all the Syrian moves. I can only say that the missiles are a very important and dangerous part of the Syrian arsenal, and Syria is using them in order to exacerbate the tension with Israel, and perhaps also to prepare its next moves toward a military confrontation with Israel about which it publicly speaks.

[Qital] Mr Shamir, 1 and 1/4 years following the establishment of the national unity government we are faced with a world of rampant terrorism and with the Syrian missiles about which we have just spoken. What is happening to the political initiatives? Some people say that one of your successes in the national unity government has been the blocking of the political initiatives.

[Shamir] Regretfully I must tell you that the political initiatives mentioned, which are being carried out without any one of us blocking or hampering them, have not brought us even 1 millimeter closer to peace, and have not even weakened terrorism, because the hatred for Israel, the determined and constant trend among many elements in the Arab world to hit Israel and erase it from the map still exists, and this, to my regret and to the regret of us all and there is nothing we can do in order to conciliate them or bring about a rapprochement of compromise, does influence them. Sometimes we get the feeling that the contrary is true: The more Israel lowers its tone, the more its acts express its strong and determined will for peace, the more the Arabs see this as signs of weakness, which only strengthens and encourages the war of terrorism and the hostility. Despite this I say we must not despair and say that we are doomed to constant war. We must, on the one hand, defend ourselves with all our might, and on the other, not give up our efforts to achieve peace.

Abu Nidal Claims Responsibility for Attacks

TA271839 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1825 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] A short time ago, Abu Nidal's terrorist organization claimed responsibility for the attacks in the airports of Rome and Vienna. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that a man who introduced himself as the spokesman of Abu Nidal's organization

phoned radio stations in Spain this evening and said that his men were responsible for the attacks. No further details were given.

Retaliation 'Extremely Difficult'

TA291000 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Dec 85 pp 1, 2

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "It Is Difficult To Hit Abu Nidal"]

[Text] A massive military reaction against Abu Nidal's organization responsible for the massacres in the airports of Rome and Vienna would be extremely difficult because this small organization does not have large bases or heavily populated headquarters as do most of the other Palestinian organizations.

It is true that Abu Nidal's organization has several hundred people, but these people and their installations are very spread out over several countries. Some of the small installations are still in Lebanon, and the rest are in Libya. Therefore the IDF's usual method of retaliation against Arab terrorist organizations over the last few years cannot be implemented in this case.

Even before Abu Nidal's organization took responsibility for the Rome and Vienna massacres, Israeli experts reached the conclusion, on the basis of the type of operation, that the Abu Nidal organization was apparently responsible. The attacks of Abu Nidal terrorists on worshipers in a Vienna synagogue in August 1981, and on synagogue-goers in October 1982, were performed in a similar way: with the throwing of handgrenades and the indiscriminate spraying of automatic rifle fire at people in order to maximize the number of casualties. Two of these murderers are still sitting in an Austrian prison. Abu Nidal's organization receives massive logistic support from Libya. This is a well-known fact, recently corroborated following the hijacking of the Egyptian airliner to Malta. The Spanish police recently discovered that Abu Nidal people active in Spain have close links with the Libyan Embassy in Madrid.

This Libyan logistic support probably helped Abu Nidal plan these two simultaneous attacks in Vienna and Rome. From the details of the interrogation received in Israel so far, it transpires that despite the large number of casualties in both places, a larger massacre was prevented. The proof of this is that when the terrorists were hit, they still had many grenades and much ammunition which they had not managed to use. This success can largely be attributed to Israeli security men, whose alertness was praised by the Italian interior minister.

As for the PLO's reaction, it should be noted that despite 'Arafat's "Cairo Declaration" of 7 November this year, which prohibits terrorist activity abroad, there are top-level elements in the organization who still support such attacks. These include the operative echelons, such as the commander of Force 17 Abu al-'Abbas, and to a large extent also Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department.

Further Reaction to Terrorist Airport Attacks

Shamir Sends Condolences

TA282316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening sent messages to his Italian and Austrian counterparts expressing Israel's grief and condolences over the victims of the terrorist attacks in the airports of Rome and Vienna. In his message, the foreign minister expresses the hope that the international community will do everything it possibly can to put an end to such acts of terrorism.

This evening, Minister Shamir received a similar message from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Our political correspondent reports that in his message Shultz reiterates the principles of the United States about action against international terrorism. A similar message was also sent by President Reagan to Prime Minister Peres today.

Protest to Italy Considered

TA291031 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 29 Dec 85 p 3

[Report by Ilan Kfir, Pe'erli Shahar, and Helen Hazan in Vienna]

[Excerpt] High-level political sources in Jerusalem regard the Government of Austria and Italy as directly responsible for the bloddy attacks in the airports of Rome and Vienna. Jerusalem is particularly angry at Bettino Craxi's government, saying he has created a breeding ground for Palestinian terrorist organizations in Italy. Jerusalem condemns the Italian prime minister's feeble reaction to the attack and his lenient attitude toward terrorist organizations. Israel is considering diplomatic protest actions against Italy.

Envoy Sofer: PLO Behind Attacks

LD281027 Paris Domestic Service in French 0800 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpts] At 0915 yesterday in Rome and Vienna, in a brutal, simultaneous operation, two commando groups of killers opened fire at the check-in desks of the Israeli El Al airline, despite the drastic security measures imposed for many years. The target of these operations was clearly the Israeli El Al company. It is not the first time this company has been the target of terrorists. The list is long; they are actions, in quotation marks, carried out either against El Al aircraft, passengers, or offices. Each time the Israeli company is hit is a sign of the resurgence of Palestinian terrorism, and the Israelis categorically claim that it is Yasir 'Arafat's PLO which is responsible, despite denials from the Palestinian headquarters. Let us listen to Ovadya Sofer, the Israeli ambassador to Paris, interviewed by Paris radio:

[Begin recording] [Sofer] There is no doubt that the PLO is behind these attacks. Whenever any progress is being made in the region, the underlying rejectionist faction [le fond de refus] of the Arab countries, to which, as you know, Al-Qadhdhafi, the PLO, and Syria belong, strikes by interfering terrorist organiza-

tions which put an end to hopes for peace of the people of the region.

[Unidentified correspondent] But Yasir 'Arafat has condemned these blind attacks.

[Sofer] It is his custom to deny responsibility for attacks. As you will remember, after the *Achille Lauro* affair, 'Arafat disowned these attacks, but afterwards it was proved in fact that it was he who was behind them.

[Correspondent] So you do not make any distinction between the hardliners of the Palestinian movement and the moderates grouped around Yasir 'Arafat?

[Sofer] I make a clear distinction between Palestinians who are peace-loving, and between the Palestinian terrorist movements, one of whose leaders is the PLO.

[Correspondent] The Israeli Government has already indicated that reaction would be forthcoming. Does this mean reprisals of the kind carried out at Tunis after the murder of three Israeli tourists in Cyprus?

[Sofer] Israel has never failed in its self-defense duty, to defend itself, and our fight against terrorism is the fight of the civilized world. [end recording]

Cabinet Issues Communique

TA291740 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Cabinet Secretary Dr Yosi Beilin reads out the 29 December Cabinet communique in front of the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, in Hebrew — videorecorded]

[Text] Today the Cabinet heard a detailed report on the two massacres carried out by terrorists near the El Al counters in the Rome and Vienna airports. The prime minister expressed the Cabinet's solidarity with the bereaved families and wished the wounded a speedy recovery. He expressed appreciation for the resourcefulness and courage manifested in the fact that the terrorists were hit and captured. The prime minister reported that over the weekend he had received a message from President Regan expressing sympathy with the victims of the massacres in Rome and Vienna. The defense minister briefed the Cabinet on current defense matters, and that report was made to the Cabinet in its capacity as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

Press on Airport Attacks, Syrian Deployment

29 Dec Morning Press

TA290835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *THE JERUSALEM POST* says that Friday's killings by Palestinian terrorists have drawn an even clearer line between the supporters and enemies of peace. No longer can adherence to acts of violence be linked with the pretense of favoring a political solution. In Egypt, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has stated clearly that terrorists are a menace both to peace and to civilization. In Washington, the State Department spokesman said it was the common obligation of all civlized nations to end this menace that threatens all nations and to ensure that the terrorists have no place to hide. These are strong words indeed, which must be followed by even stronger actions. Israel has shown how it can be done. The civilized world should pool all its resources in order to uproot this evil.

DAVAR writes that the attacks in Rome and Vienna undoubtedly obligate Israel to intensify the war against terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation on this matter. There is still much to be done in this sphere; however, the effectiveness of Israel's reaction will depend on the punishment meted out to those directly responsible, and not on overt, general reprisals. We paid too high a price, the paper adds, for the general reaction that followed the attack on Ambassador Argov.

HATZOFE says that the murderous attacks at the EL AL counters in Rome and Vienna have again revealed the true face of the Arab terrorist organizations. The PLO has not changed. With all of Yasir 'Arafat's attempts to obtain international legitimacy as the representative of the Palestinian people, he nevertheless continues to scheme, to wreak havoc and destruction, and occasionally to try to find new targets for his actions. The forgiving attitude shown by some countries toward the PLO and their attempts to find signs of moderation in the organization so as to legitimize it are what encourage the PLO to continue its policy of murder and terror. The killings in Rome and Vienna are a tragic reminder of the true face of Arab terrorist organizations.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that a suitable international atmosphere, perhaps the first of its kind, has been created for action to eliminate radical terrorist organizations. This atmosphere and willingness should be taken advantage of and should be considered and utilized in the common goal of eradicating murderous terrorism. It should also be pointed out that those responsible for internal security in Western Europe have openly praised the courageous and quick action by the Israeli security personnel at the airports, and have admitted that thanks to their actions, a greater massacre was prevented. This is an important change; until a short time ago, criticism was voiced over Israeli security men being allowed to use their weapons in foreign airports. Only now have people begun to understand, now that the attacks have reached intolerable proportions. Here, too, it can be said: Better late than never. Terrorism has gone too far, and this time we hope it will not go unpunished. We also hope it does not attain one of its main goals: to cause another Israeli-Arab war, or at least to foil any progress toward peace.

HAMODI'A writes that the attacks in two Euoropean countries have almost diverted attention from something else that could increase tension in the region and even create conditions for a new war. The redeployment missiles in Lebanese territory is a serious provocation of Israel. This move was made even while the Americans were continuing in their efforts to persuade Damas-

cus to lessen tension by moving the missiles deployed on the Syrian-Lebanese border.

HA'ARETZ writes that not only did the Syrian Government refuse to remove the SAM-2 missiles from the Lebanese border, but missiles of other types, which had previously been removed from their positions on Lebanese soil, have now been redeployed there. It is doubtful that political means will cause the Syrian president to retrace his steps. If he refuses to do so, a situation of constant tension might develop that would make it difficult for us to come to terms with Syria in the long run. However, we should neither jump to conclusions nor fear that examining the situation through political channels might give Damascus the impression that Israel is weak. If the Syrian Government is tempted to believe this, it is in for a surprise.

Afternoon Press

TA290932 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* writes that we and the countries of the world are fated to occasionally receive bloody reminders that terrorism is on the rise. Palestinian terrorism does not differentiate between Jew and non-Jew, or between Israeli and non-Israeli. It crosses borders, and its aim is murder for murder's sake. Once again it has been proved that the European countries' acceptance of terrorism does not give them immunity.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT writes that Yasir 'Arafat has apparently adopted a new working method. He murders innocent people, as before, but immediately declares that he is not responsible. Those who want to can believe him because in this way, when his hands are ostensibly clean of the blood that has been shed, the door to an international conference can be opened to him and he can be respectfully welcomed to every UN session, without them ever bringing this international criminal to trial.

New Syrian Deployment To Defend Missiles in Syria

TA271859 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1837 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The stationing of Syrian SAM-6 and SAM-8 missiles close to the Syrian border does not further restrict Israeli Air Force flights over Lebanon. However, in the opinion of military sources it shows that the Syrians are determined to protect the system of long-range surface-to-air SAM-2 missiles deployed on Syrian territory.

Military sources this evening emphasized to our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky that the SAM-6 and SAM-8 missiles are meant to hit low-flying aircraft. The stationing of this system is supposed to defend the SAM-2 missiles, and this move does not resemble the stationing of Syrian surface-to-air missiles on Lebanese territory at the end of November. At that time, missiles which were supposed to surprise the Air Force aircraft were stationed along the Beirut-Damascus highway and in Ba'labakk. This time, military sources believe that the Syrians will not rush to move the new missiles, although they are stationed on Lebanese territory, very close to the Syrian border.

Telephoto System Helps Overcome Flight Restrictions

TA272000 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1815 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The stationing of the Syrian missiles restricts Israeli Air Force flights over Lebanon. However, Western technology has found ways to overcome the threat of the missiles. In the last few years, Israeli Aircraft Industries [IAI] has developed a special photography system which enables the reception of a picture from deep within the enemy's territory, up to a range of 80 kms. The biggest advantage of this system is that it takes live pictures of the battlefront which enables the identification of enemy movements and deployments. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports on the new high-altitude and long-range photography system:

These are the photographs taken from an aircraft from a distance of 15 kms showing a convoy driving on the road. Further on it shows a camp with vehicles and tanks. The photograph from the aircraft is relayed directly to a rearguard command as far as 200 kms away. Further on we see tanks moving on a mountainous road and the telephoto distance is 35 kms. The picture is steady and enables immediate and accurate identification of the number of tanks. Here is another convoy moving along a mountainous road and the distance is also 35 kms. Even if the area is within the range of surface-to-air missiles, photographs may be taken from an aircraft outside the range of the missiles.

Here are hits on ammunition dumps and the telephoto distance is 45 kms. In fact, the camera will take pictures from as far away as 80 kms and get quite a clear picture of what is happening in the enemy's territory. The eyes deep in enemy territory enable the photographer to spot enemy concentrations and troop movements and to decide how to go on conducting combat. The job is done by a video camera with special lenses developed by the IAI and first exhibited at the Air Fair in Paris. The camera may be installed on any aircraft and receive a steady video picture aboard the aircraft itself, as well as in the rearguard, as far as 200 kms away from the location of the aircraft. The longer the distance, the more difficult the identification but, as we have seen, enemy troop movements can be clearly detected as far as 40 kms away or even more.

These are pictures taken along the seashore in Beirut from a distance of 20 kms. One may detect cannon positions along the shore. The advantage of the system is that it is fast, actually immediate, gives a clear in-depth picture, and enables the making of decisions for the upcoming hours of combat according to the enemy's intentions. The camera was tested during the Lebanese war; here it is seen photographing a battle with Syrian troops at Kafr Sir, south of Beirut.

It is at this time as Syrian missiles restrict the Air Force's freedom of flight that this camera provides possible solutions for photographing areas within the range covered by these missiles.

Rabin on Missile Move; 'No Tension' on Golan

TA281209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by correspondent Alan Ben-'Ami; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] I believe that the Syrian act, even though Syria tries to describe it as a response to so-called provocation by Israel that took place on the 19th of November this year, when we, in the defense of our reconnaissance flights over Lebanon, shot down two Syrian Russian-made MIG-23 interceptors — I believe that by the two-phased step by Syria, first to move the SAM-2's to the Syrian-Lebanese border, and the introduction of the SAM-6's into Lebanon, Syria has carried out an act that no doubt carries the potentialities of escalation. Israel will reserve for itself the ways, the means, and the time on how to cope with this problem.

We have kept, since the incident of the 19th of November, in close touch with the U.S. Government. We have discussed the meanings of the developments, but I wouldn't go beyond it. Allow me to remind you: Israel is an independent state and Israel is responsible for its defense and for its vital security interests. We'll make our decisions on our own.

[Ben-'Ami] You seem to be hinting that diplomatic moves as in the recent past with the missiles on the Syrian-Lebanese border are not going to work, and that military action is unavoidable.

[Rabin] I'm not going to say what Israel will do to bring about a solution to the problem the way that the Syrians have presented to us, and I stress, in Lebanon.

Allow me to remind you that at the present there is no tension whatsoever at the Golan Heights, where there is a potential threat or potential possibility of a confrontation, a direct confrontation, between Syrian forces and Israel. Both countries keep their commitments under the disengagement agreement of 1974. Do you know the UNDOF, the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, is carrying out its duties and there are no claims of any violation of the agreement on both sides?

[Ben-'Ami] Will Israel continue its flights over Lebanon nevertheless?

[Rabin] We continue our flights over Lebanon.

[Ben-'Ami] What about the visit of King Husayn to Damascus? Do you think this is likely to restrain the Syrians and bring them into the peace process, or is there the possibility of the opposite happening, of the Jordanians being involved in a military...

[Rabin, interrupting] I believe that the purpose of the Syrian policy is to prevent another repetition of what President al-Sadat of Egypt did. The only way that proved to be effective to bring about peace between an Arab country and Israel is by a bilateral and in direct negotiations for peace. Any attempt to try to achieve the beautiful word of comprehensive peace by bringing together all the Arab countries, all the Arab organizations, and especially under fully fledged international peace conference co-chaired by the Soviet Union and the United States, will lead nowhere. Had Al-Sadat waited till Jordan or Syria or Saudi Arabia or all of them would agree to his terms for peace with Israel, there would have been no peace by now between Egypt and Israel. Therefore, Syria tries to avoid, to prevent repetition of what happened and not let Jordan to negotiate peace with Israel.

[Ben-'Ami] Do you think the defense cuts that you've been talking a lot about are going to affect Israel's deterrent posture, or make the Syrians more ready to risk a war?

[Rabin] I hope not, because it doesn't affect us immediately.

Further Rabin Comments

TA291345 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1335 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that Israel will deal with terrorism in the most efficient way. The major damage must be attributed to the leaders of the terrorist organizations and those who organize and perpetrate it. The defense minister said that the attacks in Rome and Vienna should serve as a model to the world of the terrorism that afflicts Israel and Israeli citizens daily from Lebanon and the territories. The defense minister called on the UN Security Council to take practical steps against countries that support terrorism. For its part, Israel will draw its own conclusions, as it has done in the past.

As for Syria, the defense minister said that Israel has no interest in war. Syria has not obtained strategic parity with Israel and we know this, but Israel cannot rely on Syrian logic. This is what the defense minister said to a congress of the United Jewish Appeal in Jerusalem and the remarks were reported by our correspondent David Essing.

'Experts' Comment on 'Diplomatic Challenge' Posed

TA290906 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Dec 85 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman]

[Excerpt] Experts here believe that the chances of the Syrians unilaterally moving the SAM batteries out of Lebanon are relatively small. According to these experts, the Syrians have nothing to lose by leaving them there (other than the missiles themselves) and a lot to gain, specifically in inter-Arab relations. By moving the missiles into Lebanon, these experts continue, Al-Asad ostensibly moved to protect his SAM-2 batteries — but in fact posed a direct diplomatic challenge to Israel that is far wider than just Israel's ability to patrol the skies of Lebanon.

The Syrians, *THE POST* was told, do not want war. But they also do not want movement on the peace front between Israel and Jordan, nor do they want the "idyllic situation" on Israel's northern border to continue unchallenged.

"We have to see Al-Asad's decision to deploy these missiles in that context, not just the narrow one of protecting the SAM-2s, and we will have to act accordingly," a senior government source

told *THE POST*. "Al-Asad has called all the moves until this point," he continued. "It is clear around the cabinet table here, that the time has come for Israel to take the initiative."

Say Tension 'Eased Somewhat'

TA281945 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] The tension between Israel and Syria in the wake of the stationing of the SAM-6 and SAM-8 missiles in Lebanese territory near the Syrian border has eased somewhat. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports that military sources believe that the Syrian move is primarily political and is not of far-reaching military significance as was the deployment of the SAM-2 missiles. The Syrians have made it clear that they see themselves free to station the missiles anywhere in order to defend Syria. The deployment of the missiles in Lebanon may be changed in the next few days and the missiles may be moved back into Syria.

Golan Officers Say Syrian Activity 'Routine'

TA291138 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Senior Israeli officers on the Golan Heights described Syrian and Israeli military activity in the area as being routine for many weeks now. The officers told reporter Alan Ben-'Ami the Syrians are maintaining the conditions of the disengagement accord between the two countries, and both sides appear to be trying not to do anything which could be construed as warming up the situation. The officers said there has been no unusual Syrian activity on the Golan since the Syrian began placing surface-to-air missiles in Lebanon and along the Syrian-Lebanese border.

Envoy Cited on Damascus Summit, Peace Process

TA281600 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] King Husayn has promised Egyptian notables that during his visit in Damascus on Monday he does not plan to go back on the principles he set out for promoting the peace process in the region and that all he wants is to find out the Syrians' position regarding this process. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the charge d'affaires at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington made these remarks to the charge d'affaires at the Israeli Embassy.

The Egyptian diplomat also noted that President Mubarak meant to pressure 'Arafat when he warned that if the PLO leader does not accept the UN resolutions referring to the recognition of Israel within 2 months King Husayn will proceed even without the PLO. This may also be connected with the notion to invite Palestinian leaders from the territories to take part in the negotiations as the representatives of the Palestinians.

The Egyptian diplomat also told his Israeli counterpart that Egypt does not want the Soviet Union to be a full partner to the peace process, but it realizes that it must be included in one way or another just as Syria must be made part of it.

Peres Requests Further Explanation From Mubarak

TA292015 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has asked Egyptian President Husni Mubarak for further written explanations about the question of the future of normalization between the two countries and the bill of arbitration over the Tabah affair. Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni is to depart for Cairo tonight taking the letter on this matter to the president.

Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that after receiving the explanations from Cairo, Mr Peres will hold a talk with his vice prime minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, about whether the issue is to be placed on the Cabinet agenda and, if so, when.

In this context, it has been reported from the Foreign Ministry that with the conclusion of the Ra's al-Burqa' murder trial, Israel is now awaiting a report from Egypt about the results of the investigation into the murder.

Envoy Expresses 'Full Confidence' After Sentencing

TA281555 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Israel's ambassador in Egypt has expressed full confidence in the Egyptian judicial system in view of the fact that the murderer of seven Israelis at Ra's al-Burqa' has been sentenced to life in prison with forced labor.

Ambassador Moshe Sason told our political correspondent that Israel is now awaiting the full official report on the affair, as has been promised. He expressed his satisfaction at the fact that in the last few days Egyptian papers have begun printing the truth about the events at Ra's al-Burqa'.

Rabin Warns IDF Budget Cuts Involve 'Great Risks'

TA271920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has approved the IDF's working program for next year, including the budget cuts. He said that the public should be aware that these slashes entail great security risks. We cannot elaborate on the facts to the public, Rabin said. The defense establishment must swallow its frustration, despite the fact that this brings butterflies to its stomach in view of the great risks we are taking.

The defense minister added that the IDF is called upon to do the impossible and live up to its missions in the face of threats while taking an unprecedented slash in its budget. Our military correspondent adds that after the working program has been approved, orders will be issued to the IDF units to reduce the size of the troops and regular activities.

ALGERIA

FLN Extraordinary Congress Ends; Plebiscite Set

LD271411 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The extraordinary FLN congress ended its meetings by approving the committees' reports and the draft resolution on general policy. The congress also heard a speech by Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general and president of the Republic.

In his speech, President Bendjedid praised the sense of responsibility and democracy that prevailed over the work of the congress and the important results achieved by approving the preliminary document of the National Charter. This document will be presented in a popular plebiscite on 16 January.

The brother president stressed the need for all strugglers and officials to adhere to the implementation of the revolution's ideological document after the people approve it, both in actual fact and practically.

The political resolution praised the efforts of the National People's Army to defend the revolution and its contribution to realizing achievements. The resolution affirmed the need for continuing the efforts to strengthen the army's capabilities and potentialities. The congress recommended the establishment of a military industry.

With regard to the Algerian expatriate community, the congress praised the efforts of the Algerian community in Europe for the good of the Algerian community and called for greater vigilance and the redoubling of efforts to secure new victories.

The congress called for intensifying the efforts to confront firmly the subversive elements trying to detract from the people's unity and impede their course. It denounced the irresponsible stances taken by the elements that had been cast away by the revolution.

With regard to the Middle East, the general policy resolution affirmed that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region must be based on the Palestine people's right to self-determination and on the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people.

In its political resolution, the congress denounced the Zionist aggression on Tunisia and the PLO.

LIBYA

Vienna, Rome Airport Attacks 'Heroic Operations'

LD292139 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Dec (JANA) — A number of Arab regimes have condemned the daring operation undertaken by the sons of the martyrs of Palestine from the Sabra and Shatila camps against the Zionist El Al company desks in the Rome and Vienna airports the day before yesterday.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi has in fact sent a telegram of condolence to his Italian and Austrian counterparts, in which he stressed the Tunisian Government's absolute condemnation of this action undertaken by the sons of the martyrs of Sabra and Shatila.

For its part, the Egyptian regime hurried to condemn this operation: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Egyptian regime Butrus Ghali described the two attacks against the Zionist El Al company as terrorist operations that constituted an obstacle to what he called the peace process.

As for the Jordanian regime, it has described the attack as crimes against mankind. In a statement to the Jordanian press, the Jordanian information minister said that his country strongly opposes such operations.

These Arab ministers who have denounced and condemned this action by the sons of the partyrs of Sabra and Shatilah camps, who are among the sons of the Palestinian people, have forgotten or pretend to forget what the Palestinians have been subjected to at the hands of the Zionist enemy gangs. These gangs have perpetrated the most hideous bloody massacres of sons of the Palestinian people in the two camps.

The fact that these Arab officials condemn the sacrificial [fida'iy] action of the sons of the martyrs of Sabra and Shatilah will carry more significance than the well-known positions of the submissive Arab regimes. Furthermore, such heroic operations, which are considered to be a direct result of the Sabra and Shatilah massacres, are in themselves a condemnation of the Arab regimes and the world public opinion. These stand with folded arms when confronted by Zionist high-handedness and the hideous inhuman crimes that the Zionists have committed and continue to commit with the support of the U.S. Government, which puts all means of destruction in the hands of the enemy , thereby encouraging it to annihilate the Palestinians.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Gorbachev, Other Messages

LD291640 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received more messages of greeting on the occasion of the new year. These messages came from Mikhail Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Presidium [as heard]; Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of Romania; French President Francois Mitterrand; Li Xiannian, president of the People's Republic of China, and Zhao Ziyang, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

The brother leader of the revolution also received greetings on the occasion of the New Year from (Baw Abuji), executive secretary general of the Economic Commission of Africa and the Arab World, and the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, Abe Shintaro.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reportedly To Meet Algerian President

NC291356 Paris AFP in English 1253 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Algiers, Dec 29 (AFP) — President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi are to meet next month in an attempt to end a year-long crisis in bilateral relations, Arab diplomatic sources said here today.

The sources said the meeting would be in a southern Algerian town near the border with Libya.

Algerian officials and Libyan sources in the Algerian capital refused to comment on reports of the planned meeting.

Sudan Leader Visit Linked With Egypt Rapprochement

GF281518 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 28 Dec 85 pp 1, 21

["Exclusive" rpeort from Khartoum]

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, will visit Libya on 3 January now that Libya has agreed to discuss the Sudanese initiative to improve Libyan-Egyptian relations. Siwar al-Dhahab will visit Egypt after his visit to Libya.

An official source at the Sudanese presidential palace has told *AL-KHALIJ* that Sudanese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub, who is currently visiting Libya, 2 days ago contacted Lt Gen Siwar al-Dhahab and informed him of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's acceptance of Sudan's initiative and his readiness to discuss it with Siwar al-Dhahab. Siwar al-Dhahab had discussed the initiative with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak who accepted it. The Sudanese source told *AL-KHALIJ* that Lt Gen Siwar al-Dhahab proposed his initiative to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz who affirmed their keenness to clear the Arab air and end the tension between Egypt and Libya. The Sudanese source believes that there is a great possibility that a meeting will be held between Mubarak and Al-Qadhdhafi in Khartoum to discuss the outline on which relations could be established. It should be noted that Col al-Qadhdhafi said 1 week ago that he is ready to meet with Mubarak to "find out from him how to extricate Egypt from the Camp David accords."

The Sudanese source linked Sudan's efforts to reconcile Egypt and Libya's dispatch of Col al-Qadhdhafi's envoy to the UAE and Saudi Arabia. The envoy conveyed messages from al-Qadhdhafi to Shaykh Zayid and King Fahd.

Reports Termed 'Nonsense'

LD291605 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] The JANA political editor has denied reports by Arab and foreign news agencies that the chairman of the Transitional Military Council in Sudan, 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab's visit to Libya is aimed at easing tension between Egypt and Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Commenting on the reports, the editor said that there is absolutely no truth in this nonsense, which has been repeated by the Arab media in particular. He added that although there is nothing left in the Arab world that produces amazement, we find it strange that such nonsense should come out of the Arab media which should know that whatever is between Egypt and Libya is not a bilateral issue, but an essential pan-Arab issue.

The editor said that Egypt has recognized the Zionist enemy and is linked to it by the stable David accords. This is treason that was rejected by the Arab nation as a whole, including the people of Egypt. This is why we stress what we have repeatedly announced in the past, namely our rejection of any mediation regarding this. The issue does not concern Libya and Egypt only, but concerns the whole Arab nation.

The editor added that while we deny the nonsense reported by Arab and foreign media, we stress that Lieutenant General Siwar al-Dhahab's visit is aimed at developing relations between the two brotherly countries, and if this visit was for the purpose of mediation we would not have accepted it in the first place.

The editor concluded by saying that when we look at this superficial understanding of matters in the Arab world, we are not surprised at sudden nonsense which talks about mediation between Egypt and Libya and gives the United States the right to dominate Arabs, impose its perception on the Arab map, and specify where Arabs establish their bases and installations. In the future the United States will impose its ideas on Arabs as individuals and order whom they should marry and whom they should divorce.

Sudanese Envoy Denies Report

LD292041 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Dec (JANA) — The first channel of Libyan Television today broadcast an interview with 'Abd al-Majid Bashir al-Ahmadi, Sudanese ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

During this interview the Sudanese ambassador refuted the trivia of hostile reactionary Arab and Western media, which report that General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council will, during his visit to Libya, mediate between Egypt and Libya.

The Sudanese ambassador stressed that what is reported by the reactionary Arab and Western media in this regard is primarily an insult to the Sudanese people who triggered the 6 April revolution. He said that General Siwar al-Dhahab's visit to the Jamahiriyah will be a fraternal visit to a fraternal country.

During this meeting, the Sudanese envoy referred to the report, which has been attributed to a responsible source in the presidential palace in Khartoum, that the Sudanese foreign minister had contacted General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar Al-Dhahab from Tripoli and told him that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi agrees to a Sudanese initiative. The envoy said that this is a huge lie and is nonsense.

'Abd al-Majid Bashir al-Ahmadi added that it is common knowledge that during his recent visit to Libya the Sudanese foreign minister was received by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salim al-Ahmad Jallud, but was not received by the brother leader of the revolution.

He stressed that the Sudanese foreign minister absolutely did not discuss this so-called mediation during his talks with the Libyan officials or during his meeting with Staff Major Jallud.

Al-Akhmadi said: It is my opinion, as an Arab citizen, that it would be impossible for a meeting to be held with the Egyptian regime as long as it is committed to the stable David agreements.

At the end of his television statement, the Sudanese ambassador stressed that the brother leader of the revolution left no room for doubt when he made the possibility of any meeting between himself and Husni Mubarak 100-percent conditional [as received].

Further on Sudanese Delegation Visit to Tripoli

Received by Jallud

LD272334 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud last night [27 December] received the Sudanese delegation which includes brothers Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub, minister of commerce, cooperation, and supply Sid Ahmad al-Sayyad, and Minister of LaborStanley James Wango.

During this audience, brother Foreign Minister Taha Ayyub conveyed to Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud a message from General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council in sisterly Sudan, to the brother leader of the revolution.

First Session Protocol Signed

LD271604 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 14, Dec.27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The first session protocol of the joint Libyan Arab committee [as received] was signed yesterday afternoon in Tripoli.

The protocol includes the promotion of the bilateral cooperation in all economic, education, cultural health and information fields as well as the scientific research, Islamic call, electricity and Jamahiriyah sports.

Also two agreements between Al-Jamahiriyah and Sudan for the promotion of cooperation were signed covering the field of customs and labour force. They were signed from Al-Jamahiriyah's side by the secretaries of the People's Committee for Planning and Economy and in charge of oil and of the People's Committee for Public Services.

From the Sudanese side they were signed by Stanley James Wango, minister of public services and labour and Sayyid Ahmad al-Sayyid, minister of commerce, co-operation and supply.

The Sudanese minister of foreign affairs, Ibrahim Taha Ayyub, in a speech he delivered at the signing celebration, expressed his appreciation for the Libyan Arab people for its stances and support for the brotherly Sudanese people during the hard times Sudan went through. He stressed that this get-together between the two brotherly peoples, was a step in the road of Arab unity and a consolidation of Arab solidarity principle.

Joint Communique Issued

JN282105 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum Tripoli, 28 Dec (SUNA) — A joint communique was issued in the Republic of Sudan and the Socialist People's Arab Jamahiriyah today on the visit by the Sudanese delegation led by Foreign Minister Taha Ayyub to Libya 24-28 December. The following is the text of the communique SUNA has received:

In order to strengthen brotherly and historic links between the two fraternal countries and to implement the contents of the agreement minutes that were signed on 9 May 1985 and call for holding the first session of the Sudanese-Libyan joint committee in Tripoli, at the invitation of brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, Sudanese Foreign Minister Taha Ayyub headed an inportant delegation on an official visit to Libya 24-29 December 1985.

In an atmosphere of brotherhood and based on a joint desire to support cooperation and coordination to promote the pan-Arab trends, the delegations of the two fraternal countries held a number of meetings within the framework of the first session of the Sudanese-Libyan joint committee. It was attended for Sudan by Sayyid Ahmad al-Sayyid, minister of trade, cooperation, and supply, and Stanley James Wango, minister of public service and labor; and for Libya by Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Planning, and Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Mubruk, secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Service.

The talks dealt with bilateral relations and ways to support and develop them in all political, economic, cultural, and technical areas in order to achieve the two fraternal peoples' objectives, strengthen brotherly links between them, promote the Arab nation's march toward unity, and confront all Zionist and colonialist conspiracies.

The two sides announce the Libyan and Sudanese people's belief in Arab unity and stress their efforts to achieve it in order to moblize the Arab nation's potentials and build its intrinsic power to confront Zionism and imperialism. Within the framework of developing brotherly relations between the two countries in the economic field, the two sides signed a trade and customs agreement to organize and encourage trade exchange. They signed another agreement to organize the work of Sudanese

manpower in Libya. They also signed the minutes of the first session of the Sudanese-Libyan committee.

Regarding ways to accelerate the implementation of cultural agreement concluded between the two countries in 1975, and to put its implementation program signed on 9 May 1985 into effect, they agreed to support cultural relations between their fraternal people and strengthen cooperation between their scientific, cultural, and media institutions. Sudan expressed its deep thanks to the Libyan people for supporting the Sudanese people in confronting their economic crisis and the consequences of drought and desertification.

In this regard, Libya stressed the Libyan people's support for the Sudanese people in confronting the effects of the economic crisis and all forms of political and economic pressure on the Sudanese people.

The two sides reviewed the dimensions of [word indistinct] and the Zionist political, military, and economic onslaught against the Arab nation. Within this framework, the Sudanese side expressed its support for the Libyan people's legitimate right to defend their land, airspace, and territorial waters.

The two sides stresed the need to prevent military naval activity by foreign states in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea and to prevent the establishment of military bases in them. They also reiterated their call for making these two areas peaceful nuclear-free regions removed from international conflicts.

The two sides showed special concern about the serious situation in the Arab region which is the result of the Zionist enemy's hostile and expansionist actions. These actions are supported by the United States within the framework of their strategic alliance that is aimed against the security and safety of the region's people and seeks to entrench the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine and liquidate the Palestine question. In this regard, Sudan and Libya stressed that the Arab-Zionist conflict is one of existence, and not one of borders, and that a settlement of the Palestine question can be achieved only through full recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and theestablishment of their independent state under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The two sides condemn all capitulatory and partial plans, all unilateral agreements with the Zionist entity, and all attempts to expand these agreements. The two sides affirm that the conflict with the Zionist enemy constitutes the basic and central cause of the Arab strugle and that their countries consider that any stand on this issue could constitute a basic criterion for their relations with the various states [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct] for the Arab people in Lebanon and their national forces in their heroic confrontation of the Zionist occupation and the imperialist-colonialist onslaught. They appeal to all Lebanese factions to unite to build a united Arab Lebanon.

The two sides expressed regret over the continuation of war between Iran and Iraq. They called for more efforts to stop this war and to direct all potentials against the Zionist enemy.

The two sides reviewed the situation in Africa and affirmed their condemnation of the racial policy adopted by the white minority regime in South Africa, which carries out the most hideous repressive and terrorist measures against the unarmed African people. They expressed their full support for the struggle of the Namibian and South African people and for their uprising against coercion and exploitation. They also expressed their determination to continue supporting the struggle to destroy racism and to achieve independence and sovereignty. The two sides also denounced all forms of colonialism and imperialism in Africa and imperialistic attempts to influence the political approaches of the African states.

The two sides call for the formation of a broad front comprising all oppressed peoples who are hostile to imperialism to confront the [word indstinct] schemes and conspiracies. In this context, the two sides note their faith in the OAU's important and effective role in service of the causes of the continent and in confronting colonialist, imperialist, and racist influence in African countries.

The two sides reviewed the state of affairs in Chad, strongly condemned imperialist and colonialist interference there, and announced their support for OAU resolutions seeking a solution to the Chadian issue within the framework of a national reconciliation among all Chadian factions.

On Western Sahara, the two sides reaffirm their support for OAU resolutions calling for a referendum in the Western Sahara that will enable its people to determine their own fate.

From the premise of their joint commitment to the causes of the Arab nation and the African Continent, the two sides stress the importance of Arab-African cooperation and the need to activate it to promote joint interests. In this respect, and based on Arab-African brotherhood and unity of fate and struggle against the [words indistinct] and South Africa, the two sides appeal to African countries not to resume diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy. The two sides stress [words indistinct] urgent Arab League meeting to discuss this issue and its serious implication for the Arab cause and to further advance the march of Arab-African cooperation.

On the international level, the two sides decided [word indistinct] to garner the widest support possible for Arab, Islamic, and African causes and for the causes of liberation in the world. In this respect, the two sides express their support for efforts to establish a new world economic system that would safeguard the economic rights of all countries based on justice and equality. They also agreed on the need for a South-South dialogue as a basic step toward dialogue between the North and South.

They also stressed the importance of amending the charters of the IMF and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in a manner that would safeguard the rights of Third World countries.

The two sides valued the positive and important role the Nonaligned Movement is assuming and its efforts to settle current world international problems and crises. The two sides stress the need to work for the enhancement of the Nonaligned Movement's unity and the solidarity of its members in confronting imperial-

ism and racism and establishing world peace and security.

The two sides agreed to work and exert their efforts to amend the UN Charter [words indistinct] and its great appreciation for the vanguard role of the 1 September Revolution [words indistinct] and the causes of liberation in the world.

The two sides agreed to pursue their meetings periodically between the [words indistinct] and the Sudanese Foreign Ministry to consolidate and coordinate political stands in a manner that would serve the two fraternal people's pan-Arab trends.

The fraternal Sudanese delegation expressed its appreciation for and thanks to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for the warm reception and hospitality it has been accorded in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

It was agreed to hold the second session of the Libyan-Sudanese committee in Khartoum in December 1986.

JANA Carries 'Text' of Communique

LD291606 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 29 Dec 85

["Libyan Sudanese Joint Statement" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli. Rabi Athani 16, Dec. 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A joint communique was released yesterday in both Tripoli and Khartoum at the end of the meetings of the first session in Tripoli of the Libyan-Sudanese mixed commission. Text as follows:

In consolidation of fraternal historical ties between the two brotherly peoples, in execution of provisions of the protocol signed by the two parties on 11th Shaaban 1394 A.P.D. 9th May 85, providing for the meeting of the first session of the Libyan-Sudanese Mixed Commission in Tripoli and at the invitation of the secretary of the People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau, the Sudanese foreign minister, Ibrahim Taha Ayyub, paid an official visit, at the head of an important delegation, to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah from 24 to 28 December 1985

Within a fraternal atmosphere and common desire to consolidate cooperation and coordination for national goals, the delegations of the two brotherly peoples held several meetings within the framework of the first session of the Libyan-Sudanese mixed commission in which the following took part:

1) The secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning and Economy.

2) The secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Service.

and on the Sudanese side:

1) Sayyid Ahmad al-Sayyid, minister of trade and cooperation.

2) Stanley James Wango, minister of public service and labour.

The talks reviewed bilateral relations between the two countries and ways and means to develop them in political, economic, cultural and technical fields for the mutual interest of the two brotherly peoples and consolidation of fraternal ties between them to give further impetus to the Arab nation's march towards total unity and countering all Zionist-colonial conspiracies.

The two sides declare the belief of the Arab people in Libya and Sudan in Arab unity and pledge themselves to work towards its realisation so as to mobilise the Arab nation's' resources and buildup its self-power to counter Zionism and imperialism.

The Sudanese side expressed its deeps thanks to the Libyan Arab people for their support for and solidarity with the Sudanese people in combatting its economic crisis and the effects of its drought and desertification.

In this respect, the Libyan Arab side reiterates the Libyan Arab people's stand on the side of the Sudanese people in countering the effects of the economic crisis and the political and economic pressures exerted against it.

The two sides reviewed the implications of the imperialist-Zionist military political and economic onslaught against the Arab nation.

In this regard, the Sudanese side expressed its country's support to the people of Jamahiriyah in their legitimate defence of its land, airspace and territorial waters.

The two sides reasserted the need to ban foreign military naval activities in the Red Sea and the Mediterranean and establishment of military bases thereon. They reiterated their call for making the two areas nuclear free zones and away from international conflicts.

On the Arab field, the delegations of the two peoples gave special interest to the serious situation in the Arab region as a result of the hostile and expansionist policy being conducted by the Zionist enemy with the support of the United States of America within the context of their strategic alliance directed against the security and peace of the peoples of the region in a bid to entrench and foster the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine and liquidate the Palestinian cause.

In this respect, the two parties reasserted that Arab-Zionist conflict was a conflict of existence and not conflict of borders and that the solution of the Palestinian problem cannot be achieved without total recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people including its right to self-determination and the establishment of its independent state spearheaded by its sole legitimate representative — the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

In this regard, the two sides condemn all partial accords, capitulationist projects, separate treaties with the Zionist enemy and all attempts aimed at the enlargement of these accords.

They reasserted that conflict with the Zionist enemy represents the fundamental and central cause of Arab struggle and that they consider the stand towards this cause as a fundamental test-basis

for their relations with other countries in the world.

The two sides reaffirmed their total support to the Arab people in Lebanon and its patriotic forces in their heroic resistence against Zionist occupation and colonial-imperialist onslaught.

They urge all Lebanese parties to unite for building up a united Arab Lebanon.

The two parties expressed their regret towards the continuation of war between the two sisterly countries Iran and Iraq. They called for further efforts to halting it so as to direct all their resources against the Zionist enemy.

On the African field, the two sides reviewed the situation in the African continent and reaffirmed their condemnation of racist policy of the white minority regime in South Africa which is practicing the most barbaric forms of oppression and terrorism against the African peaceful people.

They expressed their total support for the struggle of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia and their revolutions against oppression and explotation.

They pledged themselves to continue supporting these peoples' struggle against racism so as to realise their sovereign independence.

The two sides condemned all forms of colonial and imperialist presence in the African Continent and colonial attempts to influence political orientations of African countries.

The two sides called for the formation of broad front of oppressed peoples fighting against imperialism so as to stand against colonial schemes and conspiracies.

In this regard, the two parties record their belief in the important and vigorous role of the Organisation of African Unity towards the causes of African peoples and in countering colonial, imperialist and racist penetration of African countries.

The two parties reassert the need for an urgent meeting of the council of the Arab League to discuss this issue and its serious effects on the Arab cause and to advance the course of Arab African cooperation and take it to a new perspectives.

The Sudanese delegation hailed the achievements realised on the soil of Jamahiriyah and expressed its appreciation of the great pioneering role being played by the Great 1st September Revolution for the causes of Arab-islamic nation and causes of liberation in the world.

The two sides agreed to continue their meetings on a periodical basis between the Peoples' Foreign Liaison Bureau in the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Foreign Ministry in the Republic of Sudan to consolidate and coordinate political stands for the mutual interest of the two brotherly peoples.

Mediation Between Mali, Bukina Faso Continues

Burkinabe Leader Calls Al-Qadhdhafi

LD271915 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Dec (JANA) — Captain Thomas Sanakra, leader of the revolution in the Burkinabe Jamahiriyah, made a telephone call this evening to the brother leader of the revolution. Sankara told the brother leader about the latest developments in the border conflict between the Burkinabe Jamahiriyah and Mali.

Mali President Phones Al-Qadhdhafi

LD281550 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Mali President Moussa Traoure this morning held a phone conversation with the leader of the revolution. They discussed the latest developments of the situation between Mali and the Burkina Jamahiriyah and the efforts made by the Libyan Jamahiriyah to settle the border dispute between the two African countries.

Observers To Be Sent to Border

LD290835 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0755 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Dec (JANA) — Following intensive contacts made by the brother leader with Thomas Sankara, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of Burkina Faso, and Moussa Traore, president of Mali, a cease-fire between the two countries was agreed upon after its announcement by Libya at 0300 Jamahiriyah time on Sunday 29 December. [sentence as received] It was also decided that the Jamahiriyah would send observers to the border between the two countries on Monday 30 December in preparation for negotiations and reconciliation between the two countries.

Cease-Fire Announced

LD291424 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] A statement from Burkina Faso and Mali said that agreement was reached today on a cease-fire between the two countries. The statement said that following the efforts made by Libya and Nigeria and the contacts made by the leader of the revolution with chairman of the Revolutionary Council in Burkina Faso, Captain Thomas Sankara, and Malian President Moussa Troare, the two countries agreed on the following: first, an immediate and comprehensive cease-fire; second, the withdrawal of forces to the positions they were in before the recent events; third, a halt to any measure that would lead to the deterioration of relations between the two fraternal countries; fourth, the formation of a military surveillance committee from Libya, Nigeria, Mali, Burkina Faso, and a delegate of the OAU chairman.

Burkina Faso has officially contacted the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and informed it of its agreement to a

cease-fire in the border dispute with Mali.

U.S., French Stands on Mali-Burkina Conflict Viewed

Attempt To 'Aggravate' Situation

LD271816 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] America and France are both endeavoring to aggravate the situation on the African Continent by exploiting the conflict between the Burkinabe Jamahiriyah and Mali. Today the U.S. Administration followed France and showed its concern about events in Africa by issuing a statement alleging its concern about security in Africa. At the same time, it has been trying covertly to esclalate the tension in order to establish a foothold in the African Continent. This American and French step is also a frantic and a desperate move to circumvent the triumphs accomplished by the Great Fatih Revolution in Africa, as well as the result of the upset caused by the initiative of the brother leader in resolving the borders dispute between the Burkinabe Jamahiriyah and Mali.

Try To 'Undermine' Mediation

LD291009 Tripoli JANA in English 0838 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] New York, Rabi Athani 16, Dec. 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The American Government was unable to conceal its deep irritation and disappointment over the success realised by the good offices of Libyan JamahiriyaH in ending border hostilities between Mali and the JamahiriyaH of Burkina Faso.

Charles Redman, spokesman for the State Department, refused to answer question on Jamahiriya's successful efforts in ending the border conflict between Mali and Jamahiriya of Burkina Faso.

However, traditional colonial circles in France and the United States tried in the last few days to undermine progressive peace efforts of mediation between the two African neighbouring countries. This reflected the colonial open irritation towards the Libyan role in the African Continent.

MAURITANIA

President Taya Reshuffles Cabinet 29 Dec

AB291652 Paris AFP in English 1635 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Dakar, Dec 29 (AFP) — President Maaouyia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya of Mauritania today reshuffled his year-old regime, dismissing three ministers and replacing them with former officials in the government of President Mokhtar Ould Daddah, who was toppled in a 1978 coup.

Mauritanian state radio, monitored in neighboring Senegal, reported that the dismissed officials were Fisheries and Marine Economy Minister Tarkhit Ould Sidi, Water and Energy Minister Ahmed Ould Ghanhllah [name and title as received] and Secretary-General of the Government Isselmoo Ould Mohamed Wane. They were replaced respectively by Ethmane Ould Sid Ahmed Yassa, Sidi Ould Sheikh Abdellahi and Barro Abdoulaye.

No official reason was given for the reshuffle, the latest in a number of cabinet changes since Colonel Taya seized power in December 1984. The previous shake-up was last October. The three new ministers were all members of the first government of President Daddah, who has lived in exile since being overthrown in 1978. Reports that Mr. Daddah was to return home soon have not been confirmed by the current Nouakchott regime.

MOROCCO

Soviet Envoy Meets Press on Mideast Issues

LD280317 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The Soviet Ambassador in Rabat Malik Fazylov has confirmed that Mikhail Gorbachev highly appreciates all the efforts His Majesty King Hasan II is making to seek a solution to the Middle East problem and supports the Fes summit resolutions.

At a meeting in Rabat with the national press today the Soviet diplomat praised his majesty's initiative to call for an emergency Arab summit conference last August in Casablanca. At this summit a number of Arab states for the first time adopted a stand in favor of holding an international conference for settling the Middle East conflict.

In this connection, Mr Fazylov affirmed that Soviet leaders fully appreciate the viewpoint of his majesty the king regarding the need for the Soviet Union to participate in this conference. He noted the full agreement of the stands of Morocco and the Soviet Union concerning the legitimacy of the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, without which there can be no solution to the Palestinian problem or the Middle East crisis.

About the recent Geneva summit between the Soviet leader Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the Soviet ambassador explained that the meeting constituted a change in the tense situation prevailing in the world. [Words indistinct] coexistence and constructive search for peace pointing out the positive aspects of the Geneva summit.

The Soviet diplomat recalled the two messages sent by his majesty the king to the two Soviet and U.S. leaders in which his majesty renewed the attitude of the Arab states toward the Middle East problem, the Iraq-Iran war, and other issues. He affirmed in this connection, the agreement of the Moroccan and Soviet viewpoints on most issues raised in the royal message to Gorbachev.

Algerian Opposition Calls for End of 'War'

LD282006 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Ahmed Ben Bella and Hocine Ait Ahmed, the leaders of the Algerian opposition, have called for an end to the undeclared war between Morocco and Algeria. They reaffirmed that the Sahara is Moroccan.

In a joint statement to the *AL-ITTIHAD AL-ISHTIRAKI* published today they affirmed that settlement of the Moroccan-Algerian dispute cannot be achieved except within the framework of the Arab Maghreb.

In this connection they declared that they are currently considering the idea of calling on the political parties and leading figures and organizations of the Arab Maghreb to hold an expanded meeting to find a solution to the current dilemma. They said that the Sahara is the issue of all the Arab Maghreb people, and it is not in Algeria's interest to dismember Morocco.

Concerning the domestic situation in Algeria, Ahmed Ben Bella and Hocine Ait Ahmed, who in mid-December in London formed a united front opposed to the current Algerian regime, affirmed that the promotion of democracy is one of the current problems in Algeria. They explained that they have been conducting regular contacts with forces, currents, and personalities inside and outside Algeria to expand and strengthen the unity of the opposition. They affirmed that Algeria is experiencing a true tragedy, among its signs are armed mutiny and sham trials. This is what made us act as we did before the 1 November 1954 revolution.

SUDAN

Elections Reportedly Scheduled for 1-12 April

LD291403 Kuwait KUNA in English 1036 GMT 29 Dec 85

[By Sa'd al-Shaykh]

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 29 (KUNA) — Sudan's first general elections within almost two decades will be held in 301 constituencies during the period April 1st-12th, it was officially announced Sunday.

A joint session of the Transitional Military Council and the cabinet resolved that registration of voters will take place 18th January-23rd February and final lists of eligible voters will be published March 20th.

The elected constituent assembly will be basically assigned to write and endorse Sudan's permanent constitution.

Meanwhile, a joint session of the two councils will next week decide on a proposal by the National Alliance for Salvation to allocate 55 constituencies for Sudan's modern forces.

The alliance, which groups the country's main political parties and trade unions, suggested that nineteen constituencies be closed [as received] to workers, ten for farmers, ten to government employees, three for teachers, two for technicians and eleven for professionals.

Due to the prevailing situation in Sudan's Southern Region, it is yet unclear whether elections will be possible in that part of the country. Some political parties are advocating partial elections there, but this trend is not likely to be accepted because the new constituent assembly will write Sudan's permanent constitution. The government announcement said elections will take place in all parts of sudan.

The main parties contesting the elections will be the Democratic Unionists, the Umma, the Muslim Brothers and the Communists.

Minor groups who wil fight the electioneering battle are the pro-Libyan Revolutionary Committees Movement, the Nasirites and the pro-Iraq, pro-Syria Ba'thists.

Last week 13 provincial groups merged together and declared that elections are not feasible at present.

They proposed that an all-party coalition government be formed after expiry of the transitional period.

Due to prevailing internal conflicts of the major parties, it is almost impossible to forecast results of the forthcoming elections in this one million square miles stretch, Africa's largest community.

Former Vice President Testifies in Falasha Case

JN281542 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1438 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Dec (SUNA) — The State Security Court trying defendants in connection with the transportation of the Falashas to Israel began today to question the first defendant, 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, first vice president of the defunct regime and head of the dissolved state security organ, which was in charge of the transportation of the Falashas under the defunct May regime. The court explained to the defendant that he has every right to defend himself against the accusations so that the court can question him in light of his testimony. [sentence as received]

Proceeding from this principle, the defendant explained to the court his position on the accusations against him regarding the transportation of the Falashas. He said that deposed President Ja'far Numayri had asked him by telephone to seek U.S. help in the transportation of the Ethiopian refugees. The deposed president's instructions were based on transporting the Falashas from Khartoum to Europe within the framework of a special program for resettling them. This was done on the condition that the operation would take place secretly between Sudan and the United States so that the country would not lose aid from friendly and fraternal countries as a result and so that Sudan would not be drawn into a conflict with Ethiopia.

The defendant also explained to the court the deposed president's instructions to Major General 'Uthman al-Sayyid, head of the Foreign Security Department in the state security organ. Al-

Sayyid had denied any official knowledge of the transportation of the Falashas and said that the defendant had informed him of the deposed president's instructions. Al-Tayyib added that Maj Gen 'Uthman al-Sayyid proposed Colonel Musa Isma'il, head of the Liberation Movements and Refugees Department, and Colonel al-Fatih 'Urwah, director of the operations and followup department in the dissolved security organ as aides. In light of this, the first defendant said, he summoned Col Musa Isma'il and ordered him to carry out the instructions of the deposed president. He said he gave Col Musa a wide range of powers to contact everyone he deemed necessary as well as the Refugees Office at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum.

The first defendant also said that he neither drew up a plan to transport the Falashas nor acquainted himself with the U.S. plan in this regard. Instead, he added, he approved a handwritten plan prsented to him by Col al-Fatih 'Urwah.

Regarding the Saba' operation, he said that the U.S. President sent a message with Vice President George Bush in which he thanked deposed President Ja'far Numayri for his cooperation with Washington. In it he asked the deposed president to resume the transportation of the Falashas to the United States. The first defendant told the court that the deposed president agreed to resume the transportation operation at the request of the U.S. President if U.S. planes would transport them under Washington's direct responsibility in order to guarantee the Falashas' safe arrival in the United States.

Regarding his recent visit to Washington, the first defendant pointed out that the visit was not basically on transporting the Falashas but on economic issues of interest to Sudan. He said these issues were discussed during the visit to Sudan by the U.S. vice president, who asked him to visit Washington to discuss them in detail with the U.S. Administration.

The first defendent said that when he had arrived in Washington, he was informed of the U.S. President's approval of Numayri's request concerning the transportation of Falashas aboard U.S. planes. Ja'far Numayri set this condition as the basis for continuing the transportation process.

The first defendent revealed that when he returned to Khartoum from Washington, he found that the deposed president had full knowledge of the U.S. President's approval of continuing the transportation process aboard U.S. planes.

'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib denied before the court that he had garnered any financial gain or benefit from the transportation of Falashas. He said his ethics, principles, and values had prevented him from doing so and that he could not sell himself cheaply. He said that the accusation that he had transferred $2 million to his own account is a cheap conspiracy against him personally and therefore, he said, his stand is a sound one.

The first defendent informed the court that the new buildings project which belongs to the dissolved security organ was a real project and not an imaginary one. He pointed out that a detailed technical study was conducted at the site of the new buildings project by experts from the United States. The defendent explained that, based on this information, he had signed a contract with the British Wimpy company to execute the project. The defendent produced a contract which he said was the one signed to build the new project. He said that a witness for the defense, Engineer Hasan Daqnah, will testify in court on the details of the contract and that a representative for the British company will show the court a copy of this contract.

Regarding the charge of exploiting the Identity Cards Department's funds for his own interests, the defendent pointed out that he had obtained a decision from the deposed president to transfer the funds to the new buildings project which belongs to the dissolved security organ. In light of this, he had transferred 553,000 pounds sterling from the Identity Cards Department funds to the new project.

Following a dispute between defense and prosecution lawyers, the court agreed that the document concerning the contract must be presented by a witness in order to enable the prosecution to discuss it with the witness.

The first defenent informed the court that Col al-Fatih 'Urwah had full knowledge of the U.S. Administration's request concerning the transportation of Falashas. The defendent said that Col 'Urwah [word indistinct] of Washington's request to transport Ethiopian refugees via Sudan and that the first defendent had denied to Col 'Urwah that he had any knowledge of this request.

The first defendent also informed the court that Maj Gen 'Uthman al-Sayyid, director of the Foreign Security Department, had full knowledge of the details of the Saba' operation because he had contacted him a short time after the operation and had gave him accurate details of the operation. The defendent said that when he asked 'Uthman al-Sayyid how he had obtained this accurate information such a short time after the Saba' operation, Maj Gen 'Uthman said that he had a radio with which he was able to contact the U.S. officials in charge of transporting the Falashas.

TUNISIA

Rome, Vienna Airport Attacks Condemned

LD281604 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Tunis, 28 Dec (KUNA) — Tunisia today announced "its complete condemnation of the two armed operations which took place yesterday at the Rome and Vienna airports."

The Tunisian foreign minister, Beji Caid Essebsi has sent cables to his Italian and Austrian counterparts in which he said that "such acts can never lead to a solution of the Palestine people's cause, in which Tunisia continues to believe."

Bourguiba Cables Mali, Burkina Faso Leaders

LD280822 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba reviewed with Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi the deteriorating relations between Mali

and Burkina Faso and the military operations on their borders. He expressed his deep concern over the developments between them and affirmed the need for all efforts to persuade the leaders of both fraternal countries to enter into a dialogue to end bloodshed.

In his capacity as dean of the presidents of African countries, President Habib Bourguiba addressed two cables to Traore and Sankara urging them to halt all confrontation and to exert all efforts to restore peace and uphold the sacred principles of fraternal dialogue and solidarity in all ordeals.

Bourguiba 'Satisfied' With Envoy's USSR 'Mission'

LD281411 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] President Habib Bourguiba today received Mahmoud Mistiri, secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry, who stated that he submitted a report to the head of state on the mission he was entrusted with in the Soviet Union. He had conveyed a verbal message from his excellency to the Soviet leaders. Mahmoud Mistiri added that he delivered the message at a meeting with the Soviet foreign minister and member of the CPSU Politburo, who conveyed the Soviet leaders' respect for the Tunisian president and their support for Tunisia.

The secretary of state emphasized the joint determination to strengthen bilateral relations at political and economic levels, especially in the commercial field; this had become clear at the meeting. He pointed out that this determination will be embodied in the exchange of visits at the highest levels in the near future as a means of bolstering relations of cooperation between Tunisia and the Soviet Union.

Mahmoud Mistiri said that he also submitted a report to the head of state on the mission he was entrusted with in Ghana and Burkina Faso. He delivered letters from the president in reply to letters received by his excellency. The secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry conveyed the two heads of state's greetings and respect, and said that President Habib Bourguiba expressed his satisfaction at the outcome of these two missions.

WESTERN SAHARA

Moroccan Plane Downed Near Dakhla 27 Dec

NC281802 Paris AFP in English 1758 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Algiers, Dec 28 (AFP) — Guerrillas fighting for independence in the Moroccan-held Western Sahara today said they had shot down a Moroccan plane Friday near the city of Dakhla.

A communique issued by the headquarters here of the Algerian-backed Polisario Front independence movement did not identify the type of plane allegedly shot down.

It said that Morocco had stepped up the use of planes to defend the Western Sahara because Polisario guerrillas had been closing in on the system of sand defense walls Morocco built to protect the disputed territory.

Pilot Killed

LD281916 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Western Sahara — The Dakhla area is in flames; the Polisario Front goes on the attack. A Moroccan war plane was shot down today during an operation by the forces of the Saharan Liberation Army. The pilot of the plane was killed.

ETHIOPIA

Eritrean Radio Reports Recent Government Casualties

EA292128 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Members of our invincible people's army and people's militia have heavily punished an enemy force that was advancing toward (Maye Aine) from (Kinatina) in southern Eritrea on 26 December 1985 in order to harass the people. During this battle, which lasted for 6 and 1/2 hours, the enemy lost 168 soldiers. Of these 75 were killed, 85 wounded, and 8 captured. One 81 mm mortar, five Kalashnikovs, one [word indistinct], four pistols and one communications radio were captured.

This attempt to advance toward (Maye Aine) by Dergue forces is the second within a week. On 22 december 1985, when the Dergue army made the first attempt, 11 soldiers were killed and 20 wounded.

In another military action our people's army and people's militia engaged an enemy force advancing toward (Wara) from Adi Tekelezan on 25 December 1985. Following this battle the enemy left behind five dead and eight wounded and retreated in disarray.

KENYA

OAU's Oumarou Offers Assistance on Uganda Peace

EA271206 Nairobi KNA in English 0920 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa 27 Dec — The OAU Secretary General Mr Ide Oumarou has sent a congratulatory message to the President Daniel Arap Moi on his success in getting the Uganda peace talks agreement signed. The message said: It is with sincere appreciation and gratitude for the considerable efforts that you deployed in getting the parties to the conflict in Uganda to reach an agreement that would hopefully pave the way for lasting peace in the country, that I welcomed the announcement of 17 December 1985. I wish to assure you that the OAU will render all the assistance that may be necessary to implement the peace accords. While sending my congratulations on the successful conclusion of the peace talks, please accept, your excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

TANZANIA

Treason Trial Defendants Sentencing Reported

EA281628 Dar Es Salaaim Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] In Dar es Salaam a chief magistrate of the high court, Ndugu Nassoro Mnzavas, who has been hearing the treason trial [against those who conspired to overthrow former President Julius Nyerere in December 1982] today sentenced 9 accused out of 15 to life imprisonment and acquitted the six remaining accused. The accused persons who were sentenced to life imprisonment, all of whom are members of the armed forces, are: Hatibu Gandhi; Captain Christopher Kadego; Lieutenant Eugene Maganga; captain Metusela Kamando; Captain Gabriel Mapunda; Captain Rodrick Roberts, Captain Oswald Mbogoro; Captain Zakaria Hanspoppe; and Lieutenant Badru Kajaja.

The six accused who were acquitted are Lt John Kitunguli; Christopher Ngaiza; Lt Otmar Haule; George Banikwa, Zerah Banikwa and Livinus Maximilian Rugaimukamu.

Reading the sentence the chief magistrate found the nine accused guilty on three charges of treason: to assassinate the president, to remove him from his post through illegal means and to overthrow the government.

Ndugu Mnzavas said he would not have hesitated to sentence the accused to death, but due to a request by the defense he decided to reduce the sentence to life imprisonment.

Defense lawyers asked the chief magistrate in his sentence to consider the fact that the accused had served the nation for a long period faithfully, they had remained in custody for three years and that this was their first offense. The lawyers also asked the magistrate to take into account that the accused were young persons and that even after their arrest they were not found in possession of any arms that could have been used in the conspiracy.

The chief magistrate said he endorsed the views of the court elders that the other six accused were not involved in the plot as there was no evidence showing that they took part in meetings of the conspiracy or acted in a manner that showed that they were involved in the plot.

Ndugu Mnzavas said although the accused were mentioned in confessions made by Hatibu Gandhi, Mapunda, Mbogoro and Roberts, the court could not consider such confessions, because there was no other evidence to support the confessions.

UGANDA

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Peace Accord

EA291857 Nairobi SUNDAY TIMES in English 29 Dec 85 p 4

[Interview with Ugandan Foreign Minister Olara Otunnu "in Nairobi this week" by "our foreign correspondent John Gachie" under the headline "Rumors of Another Coup in Uganda False"]

[Excerpts] Otunnu answers questions on his biography; "the most difficult part" of the Uganda peace negotiations; need for everyone to work for peace in Uganda]

Question: Mr Minister, how fast do you think the provisions of the [Uganda peace] accord will be met, I mean how fast or how soon?

Otunnu: All we are waiting for now, is the list of nominees, seven nominees from the NRA [National Resistance Army] to go on the [military] council. Once that has been received, we hope very rapidly to be able to organise the very first meeting of the

fully constituted Military Council, and we are already working on that.

Question: I would like to come to the question of the ad hoc committee that was supposed to have been formed to make practical arrangements for the convening of the first fully constituted military council...Has it been formed and who are its members?

Otunnu: It was supposed to make only practical arrangements, like accommodation, security for the participants and the agenda for the first fully constituted military council. Nothing more than that. We have been in contact with the NRA, though they have not yet appointed anybody to the ad hoc committee. We have been in contact with John Kazzora, Elly Tumwine [names as published] who are here in Nairobi as a practical thing.

Question: What do you think is keeping the NRM/NRA [National Resistance Movement] from nominating members to the ad hoc committee? Do you think it's a natural delay that they have not yet given names of their members in the ad hoc committee?

Otunnu: Well, it takes a bit of time to organise, I suppose. That is fair enough, but we hope that it can be speeded up.

Question: Is the ceasefire still holding, is it effective?

Otunnu: Yes, the ceasefire is still holding, it is effective.

Question: Has Kampala beeen demilitarised as per the agreement?

Otunnu: As you know, Kampala city will remain the primary duty of the police to maintain law and order, and we are in the course of arranging for the removal of the Army from Kampala to make room for the police to take over, and already the road blocks have been considerably reduced.

Question: Okay, there was a rumour that there will be a coup in Uganda on Christmas Eve, some British newspapers even quoted it, to return Amin to power, while another one is about soldiers being moved from Kampala to northern Uganda, Gulu Area. What do you have to say about this?

Otunnu: All this is nonsense. It's the disinformation from those who want the peace agreement to fail and those who don't wish us well. I am going back to Kampala tomorrow, and there will be no coup, I can tell you that.

Defense Forces Chief Ends Tour of Eastern Region

EA271940 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The chief of the defense forces, Lieutenant-General Basilio Olara Okello, has ended a tour of eastern Uganda, where we warned the people of Kumi and Mbale against self-seekers. [as heard] In Kumi, Lt-Gen Okello released ex-Capt (Ongodia), together with 136 persons he had illegally recruited, reportedly to serve in the Uganda freedom movement led by a member of the Military Council, Dr Kayira. He said the release of the illegal recruits was in line with the determination of the Military Council to bring peace to the country. The chief of the Defense Forces advised people like (Ongodia) to mobilize the general public against bad elements like cattle-rustlers.

In Mbale the chief of the Defense Forces condemned tribalism, religious, and political differences which have been the source of problems in the country. He said that in order to realize the (?justice) and freedom brought about by independence Ugandans must place national interests above their own.

Lt-Gen Basilio Olara Okello expressed shock at a number of fighting groups which sprang up from Mbale and Teso areas after the 27th July coup, purporting to have been in the bush, adding that is why the Military Council wants everybody to contribute positively to the return of peace.

The chief of the Defense Forces pointed out that the Military Council does not believe in victimization and that is why only Rwakasisi among Obote's former ministers is being held and the rest are at large. He said those who went out of the country after the take-over did so out of fear of local reprisals for their misconduct.

Mbale elders expressed appreciation to the Military Council for signing the peace accord and asked for its urgent practical implementation. They, however, expressed concern over the increased wave of robberies in and around Mbale involving the use of guns.

Masaka Soldiers Surrendered to NRA Before Accord

EA291838 Nairobi THE SUNDAY NATION in English 29 Dec 85

[Edward Kitaka report from Kampala: "1,340 Soldiers Give in to NRA"]

[Text] A total of 1,340 government soldiers trapped in the Masaka town army garrison surrendered to guerrillas of Mr Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army (NRA) about a week before the Nairobi peace accord, a senior officer in the organisation said today in a telephone conversation. Major Salim Saleh, commander of the NRA's elite mobile brigade, said the government troops were now being looked after by the International Committee of the Red Cross working together with the Uganda Red Cross Society. He said the NRA itself was supplying food to the soldiers, but added that most of them had now applied to join the guerrillas. He said the sick and the wounded were being treated in hospital.

Saleh admitted, however, that government troops at Mbarara army barracks, some 95 miles further south west, had refused to surrender and held out until the agreement was signed. But hostilities had ceased with the signing of the agreement and the troops there were also being assisted with provisions, he added.

Asked when the important road to the south-west, which passes through Masaka and Mbarara, would be reopened to traffic, Commander Saleh said this would be done as soon as there was

proof that the terms of the agreement were being implemented. He said the clearing of land mines was a simple task which could be accomplished in a day or two.

Violence Continuing Unabated in Kampala
EA281741 Dar Es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Kampala: Reports from Kampala say violence is continuing unabated in Kampala despite the peace agreement signed earlier this month by the ruling Military Council and the country's main guerrilla group, the National Resistance Army, NRA.

Ugandan newspapers reported today that two government soldiers were killed near Kampala on Christmas day, adding that residents in several parts of Kampala are kept awake almost every night by intermittent shooting. In one of the incidents, six people were seriously wounded when soldiers threw a grenade at a vehicle near Kampala and five more were hurt when troops threw a grenade at a crowd of people who had gathered for a drinks party.

Since the agreement was signed the NRA has been accusing the government of failing to control its troops.

BURKINA FASO

Mediation Talks With Mali To Open in Abidjan

AB272000 Paris AFP in English 1905 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Abidjan, Dec 27 (AFP) — The Non-Aggression and Defence Agreement (ANAD) grouping six francophone West African countries has called on the foreign ministers of its six members, plus Togo, to meet here tomorrow in a bid to end the three-day-old border war between members Burkina Faso and Mali, and ANAD official said here today.

But is was still not known whether Foreign Ministers Basile Laita Guissou of Burkina Faso and Alioune Blondin Beye would attend the meeting.

The other states in the six-nation francophone grouping are Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mauritania and Niger.

Togo, which has been active in attempting to end the war, has also been asked to attend at ANAD headquarters here, said ANAD Secretary General Jean Gomis of Senegal.

Gen Gomis said the foreign ministers of Senegal, Niger and Ivory Coast were already here; and those of Togo, Niger, and Mali were expected to arrive soon.

Telecommunications links with Burkina Faso had been cut.

Neither Libya nor Algeria, who have also been attempting to resolve the conflict, appeared to have been invited to the meeting.

War Communique No. 8 Issued on Fighting

AB272058 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2017 GMT 27 Dec 85

["War Communique No. 8 of the National Council of the Revolution — read by Lieutenant Daouda Traore; live]

[Text] War Communique No. 8 of the National Council of the Revolution: One MIG damaged and a pilot wounded by the Burkinabe CDA [antiaircraft defense] Benena, a Malian locality captured; the enemy chased away from Koloko; Malians dead, wounded,or taken prisoner. The panic of the Bamako generals in the face of the truth.[sentence as heard]

The Bamako authorities now acknowledged the bombing of Sikasso. Just after denying for a long time their human losses, they yield up to their conscience, which is encouraging. So, telling lies was not the right method because at the time of casualty counts, no masquerade could have concealed from the Sikasso inhabitants the raid on military targets. What masquerade could have hidden from the many parents the loss of their sons who have been plunged into an agrression was with unavowed and unavowable designs?

As can be seen, the Bamako authorities are making acknowledgement. Is this to be consiered as a very courageous — though heavy — step toward honesty and frankness, thus against felony, treachery, and dishonesty which have so far been their characteristic?

The Malian aggression forces launched a massive raid operation this morning against the peaceful population in the west of the country. In doing so and in accordance to their tactics consisting in avoiding our fighting troops, the Bamako generals would rather murder harmless women and children in the cowardly action.

The Bamako authorities will obviously boast of this great feat of war, the result of which is quite strange. As a matter of fact, though the real targets were not hit, the victims are as innocent as peculiar: in fact, the bullets went straignt into a river. Likely death toll, seven fish killed.

On the side of our troops, the Marien Ngouabi [the late Congolese head of state]Commando Unit seized precise military targets on the western front, thus inflicting on the enemies an unspecified number of wounded and two dead. It was precisely at Benena, a Malian locality.

Still on the western front, the aggression forces that attempted to penetrate into Koloko were firmly repelled by our people's defense forces and they left behind three dead.

Lastly, it is now obvious — according to the latest confirmed information — that the Malian bomber, which launched a cowardly attack on the Ouahigouya civilian population, was damaged and the pilot wounded by the DCA [antiaircraft defense]. This is a magnificent correction for impertinence and cowardices. Moussa Traore can continue to deny this, but doctors or air mechanics will tell the truth to the Malian people today or tomorrow.

Meanwhile we understand very well why the veracious war communique of the National Council of the Revolution throws the Bamako authorities into a panic. Against the sordid allegations of the puppet regime, we display the clear-sightedness and the objectivity of a popular, revolutionary, and consistent regime. Similarly, against the abundant equipment and imperialist support, against felony and treachery, we triumph thanks to the efficiency, combat readiness, and strength that characterizes all just causes guided by the revolutionary creative spirit.

The fatherland or death, we will win!

Cease-Fire With Mali Reportedly Agreed Upon

AB272249 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] At the request of the following heads of state: Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic of Senegal and current chairman of the OAU; Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic of Ivory Coast; Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the Republic of Togo; Mathieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin; and Seyni Kountche, president of the Republic of Niger, the heads of state of Burkina Faso and Mali have agreed to observe a cease-fire as from today 27 December 1985, and under the following conditions:

1. The two countries, the Republic of Mali and Burkina Faso, have agreed to observe a cease-fire as from 27 December 1985 at 0 hours [0000 GMT].

2. The Republic of Mali and Burkina Faso have agreed to withdraw from territory occupied by either party and to respect the borders existing between the two countries before the beginning of the conflict.

3. The Republic of Mali and Burkina Faso have accepted that an observer team made up of the ANAD [nonagression and defense Aid Agreement] and the People's Republic of Benin should go to the area in order to witness the observerance of the conditions of this cease-fire.

4. The Republic of Mali and Burkina Faso have agreed to the exchange of prisoners, if there are any.

Sankara Receives Nigerian Foreign Minister

AB280739 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Missions of mediation have been arriving in our country one after the other to try and find a negotiated solution, a solution for which Burkina Faso has never refused to search. It is in this regard that the president of Burkina Faso, Captain Thomas Sankara, last night received in audience the Nigerian minister of external affairs, Bolaji Akinyemi. The head of the Nigerian diplomacy came here to try and mediate in the unjust war launched by the puppet leadership in Bamako. At the end of the audience, the Nigerian minister told us the purpose of his discussion with the comrade president.

[Begin recording] [Akinyemi in English fading into French translation] This is a very grave moment not only for Burkina Faso but for all of Africa. Any war between African brothers is a matter of considerable concern for all Africans and, because of that, the chairman of ECOWAS, President Babangida of Nigeria, has sent me here to explore possibilities of arranging for a cessation of hostilities and a return to peace in this area.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, have you already been to Bamako?

[Akinyemi] No. I will go to Bamako after Ouagadougou to deliver the same message to President Moussa Traore.

[Reporter] Does His Excellency think that his good offices can help bring an end to this conflict?

[Akinyemi] I am a very optimistic person. We have to be very optimistic when we seek peace. I am optimistic that peace should be restored as soon as possible between Burkina Faso and Mali.

[Reporter] What do you have to propose?

[Akinyemi] I have just made some proposals to the President of Burkina Faso. For the moment I insist that there should not be too much publicity, as this can jeopardize our efforts. I would first of all like to make similar proposals to President Moussa Traore, and if the two countries come to an agreement, then we can give it all the publicity it needs and then we can give you all the details. [end recording]

ANAD Chief Not Officially Informed of Cease-Fire

AB281056 Paris AFP in French 1028 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Abidjan, 28 Dec (AFP) — General Jean Gomis (Senegal), secretary general of the ANAD (Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement) has said that he had not been officially informed of the new cease-fire agreement between Burkina Faso and Mali, as announced Friday night in Dakar by the office of the chairman of the OAU.

Interviewed Saturday morning by AFP in Abidjan, headquarters of the ANAD, Gen Gomis confirmed that the extraordinary meeting of the council of ministers of that organization, which comprises the six member-countries of the West African Economic Community [Ceao) and Togo, was scheduled for this weekend. "Even if a cease-fire agreement had been decreed, we have to meet to take measuresso that such a conflict is not repeated. That will be the objective of this council of ministers meeting. But then the two interested parties should agree to accept our proposals," Gen Gomis added.

Gen Gomis stated that he was still expecting Malian Foreign Minister Alioune Blondin Beye and his Burkinabe counterpart, Basile Guisso, who have been invited to this meeting. "If they do not come, we will at least take measures which are accomplishable at our level, notably the sending of a contingent of observers to the field. We will also make proposals to the warring sides. If they do not agree, we shall study their own proposals." The ANAD secretary general added.

War Communique Says Whites Fighting on Malian Side

AB281134 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1120 GMT 28 Dec 85

[War Communique No.9 of the National Council of the Revolution (CNR);read by Lieutenant Daouda Traore — live]

[Text] As you know, the People's Defense Forces launched the offensive on military objectives in Benena and (Ouania) in reprisal for the barbaric and hideous aggression perpetrated by the rapacious authorities of Bamakoon the civilian and innocent people of our country.

Final outcome: a reinforced Malian company of infantry has been annihilated by the People's Defense Forces. However, the CNR denounces the presence of foreign forces in the Malian Army. In fact, whites fighting in the ranks of the Malian army have been noticed at (Faramana) where clashes have been reported to us. The fatherland or death, we will win!

Sankara Receives Message from Gorbachev on Conflict

AB281424 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 28 Dec 85

["Message from Mikhail Gorbachev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee, Moscow," date not given — read by announcer]

[Text] It is with great concern that the Soviet leadership follows the armed conflict between the two African countries with which the Soviet Union maintains friendly relations. The Soviet Union cannot remain indifferent in face of the gravity of the situation. We have always called for and still call for the consolidation of the political and economic independence of African states, the maintenance and strengthening of their unity in their struggle against imperialism and neocolonialism.

The causes of such conflicts on the African Continent are well known: They are borne out of the colonial era when the colonialist arbitrarily partitioned the political map of the continent, and thus sowed distrust and animosity among Africas. It is not by chance that one of the first decisions made by the OAU was to require member countries to respect the borders formed at the time of their accession to national independence, and to settle disputes by peaceful means.

One cannot deny that the continuaition of this conflict will bring the most negative consequence to the two sides, and will, in the final analysis, only be profitable to the enemies of Africa.

The Soviet Union calls on the leadership of Burkina Faso to show political wisdom and moderation to stop the dangerous development of the situation and start seeking ways to a peaceful solution to the existing conflict in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and decisions of the OAU.

Minister Departs Abidjan in Absence of Mali Minister

AB281823 Paris AFP in French 1807 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Abidjan, 28 Dec (AFP) — It was learned in Abidjan that Basile Guissou, Burkinabe minister of external relations and cooperation, who arrived in Abidjan today on a special flight from Ouagadougou to take part in the extraordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD], left soon after arrival for Burkina Faso when he learned that his Malian counterpart, Alioune Blondin Beye, had not arrived yet although he had been expected in the Ivorian Capital.

"I will come back when my Malian colleague is here," he told journalists after holding a short talk with represenatives of the ANAD, which groups the six countries of the West African Economic Community and Togo.

Meeting Rescheduled

AB281901 Paris AFP in English 1857 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Abidjan, Dec 28 (AFP) — Foreign Ministers of the seven-nation West African Non-Aggression and Defense Agency (ANAD) will meet here tomorrow for talks on ending the four-day-old war between member countries Mali and Burkina Faso, sources at ANAD headquarters here said today.

They said Burkina Faso's foreign minister, Basile Guissou, who came to Abidjan for an ANAD meeting earlier today but left when his Malian counterpart, Alioune Blondin Beye, failed to arrive, would return for tomorrow's session. They added that Mr. Beye was expected to arrive here later today and to attend tomorrow's meeting.

Foreign Minister Explains Delay

AB282234 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Basile Guisso, minister of external relations and cooperation, returned to Ouagadougou this evening from Abidjan. In the Ivorian capital, Comrade Guisso as well the foreign ministers of the ANAD [Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement] members — Simeon Ake of Ivory Coast, Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih of Mauritania, Ibrahim Fall of Senegal, Atsu Koffi Amega of Togo and Mohammed Sanni Bako of Niger — were expected to take part in an extraordinary meeting of the ANAD on the war that Mali has imposed on us since 25 December 1985. This meeting was postponed to tomorrow moring in particular because of the absence Alioune Blondin Beye, Mali's minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation. Upon his return this evening to Ouagadougou, Minister Basile Guissou gave a press conference attended by members of the national and international press. Our colleague Roch Patin Ouedraogo was present, and here he reports on the major topics that were discussed, in particular the postponment of that meeting.

Mali once again had demonstrated its bad faith in the search for any peaceful settlement of the conflict that resulted in the war we are witnessing today. This afternoon, foreign ministers of the ANAD member-countries (?sought) to try and find a peaceful solution to the conflict. One more, the Malian authorities have not honored this call. The ministers that were present decided to postpone the meeting to tomorrow morning. Comrade Basile Guissou, our minister of external relations and cooperation, upon his return from Abidjan where the meeting was to take place, narrates the facts:

[Begin recording] I am back from Abidjan where the ANAD foreign ministeres were to meet. The scheduled time was 1400 in Abidjan, but upon our arrival, we learned that the Malian delegation could not be present in Abidjan before 2100 so the meeting was postponed to tomrrow at 0830. As we did not go to Abidjan to wait for the Malian delegation, we returned to Ouagadougou. We will return to Abidjan as soon as the Malian delegation is effectively present in Abidjan. This is the latest piece of news I wanted you to know. [Words indistinct] the imperialist, reactionary press was wondering if Burkina Faso would go to Abidjan. We are an ANAD member-country. Our president is the ANAD current chairman. We believe that we have a duty to respect.

(?We would therefore like to see concrete decisions) emerge from the (?meeting) to enable us to find a just and effective solution conforming to justice and law. [end recording]

During the meeting with the press, Comrade Basile Guissou narrated the genesis of the conflict in the presence of foreign press journalists. Comrade Guissou underlined that since we are strengthened by our just cause, we did not embark on a press campaign like the Malian authorities.

This proves, he said, that we have never claimed others' territory. We are defending our territory. The passion with which the Malian press has been attacking us proves that the conflict was only an alibi to topple the revolutionary regime in Burkina Faso.

Further on Guissou Press Conference

AB291035 Paris AFP in French 0727 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Ouagadougou, 28 Dec (AFP) — The minister of foreign affairs of Burkina Faso, Basile Guisso, disclosed in Ouagadougou on Saturday evening that new mediation in the conflict between his country and Mali was in process under the auspices of Nigeria and Libya. Mr. Guissou stated in a press conference given in the Burkinabe capital that the Nigerian minister of external affairs, Bolaji Akinyemi, arrived in Ouagadougou earlier on in the day, and should leave for Bamako on Saturday night to join the Libyan foreign minister, 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki.

It can be recalled that Mr Al-Turayki has, on behalf of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, tried to restore peace between the two neighboring countries which have been fighting over the Agacher region, situated in northern Burkina Faso and which is being claimed by Mali.

The Burkinabe minister also stated that his country was open to dialogue for putting an end to the conflict with Mali, but that it will continue the war if it was forced to. "We do not wish for war (...) but when it breaks out, one must face it and make the best out of it," he affirmed.

The Burkinabe foreign minister said that the head of the Nigerian delegation, Mr Akinyemi, came to Ouagadougou to make proposals on a peace plan for the two countries. "He is leaving for Bamako with a counterproposal from us," indicated Mr Guissou, adding that this initiative concerned a cease-fire and the time it should come into force. "We must harmonize the times," he said. If the Malians accept this mediation, he added, he will go back to Abidjan on Sunday morning to finalize this cease-fire agreement before paying a visit to Dakar where he will meet Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, current OAU chairman, who has also tried to meediate and announced a cease-fire agreement on Friday but which, Mr Guissou stressed, was not respected by Bamako.

In Ouagadougou, security measures have been taken with numerous checks, particularly at night when the street lights are out. The curfew, which was lifted last August, has not been restored and vehicles can circulate by using their lights or parking lights. The Burkinabe authorities fear Malian air raids and the airspace is still closed to traffic, while the airport has been officially closed. However, special permissions are granted to "individual cases," informed sources state, especially because of the visits by the African envoys who are trying to restore peace to the area.

Road traffic is open toward Togo, Niger and Mali. As such, a group of four French journalists, including the AFP special correspondent, were able to get to Ouagadougou on Saturday by road from Niamy. Road checks, both on the Niger and Burkinabe side are many but not rigid, and nothing shows that there is a war going on between Mali and Burkina Faso.

'Urgent' Call for Security Personnel To Report

AB290015 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0003 GMT 29 Dec 85

["Urgent Communique" — read by announcer]

[Text] All responsible officials of the security services and of the military training and civic education of the inhabitants of the city of Ouagadougou as well as the counseling personnel of the defense zones are urgently requested to report to the headquarters of the General National Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution upon hearing this communique.

CDR Calls for 'Popular War' Against Enemy

AB290025 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2352 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Statement by Comrade Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, national delegate general of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution;CDR's — live or recorded]

[Text] Comrade militants of the CDR's, white soldiers are now taking part in all the operations against our country. As we had said earlier, this is not a clash between Mali and Burkina but a clsh between the revolution and reaction. Our troops are not now fighting Malian soldiers, they are fighting the forces mobilized by international imperialism. Already in some localities, militants have demonstrated their bravery and their determination by attacking and immobilizing some tanks by setting fire to them and by errecting natural obstacles. Each one of us must do same, by tracking down the enemy wherever he may be. In the face of the aggression, let us wage a generalized popular war. The fatherland or death, we will win.

ANAD Meeting Opens in Abidjan

AB291134 Paris AFP in French 1118 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Abidjan, 29 Dec (AFP) — The extraordinary session of the ANAD [Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement] ministerial council meeting opened in Abidjan late Sunday morning in the presence of foreign ministers of seven members countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo), it was learned from the organization's General Secretariat.

Figuring on top of the agenda of this extraordinary meeting is the examination of proposals to be submitted to the belligerents — Mal and Burkina Faso — to achieve a "true cease-fire" and that of measures to take in order to avoid a recurrence of this conflict, General Jean Gomis (Senegal), secretary general of the organization, told AFP on Saturday.

This meeting, which is being attended by Alioune Blondin Beye for Mali and Basile Guissou for Burkina Faso, is taking place at a time when Libya announced that a new cease-fire occurred on Sunday night. Observers note that this is the third time a cessation to the hostilities has been announced. The first two did not come into effect. However, observers note that the Ouagadougou national radio on Sunday stopped transmission of war communiques as it had been doing each day since the beginning of the fighting on Christmas day between two African countries which figure among the poorest countries in the world.

It has been transmitting only folk music since the early hours of the morning, which could be an indication confirming that the cease-fire agreement announced by Libya is effective this time, observers in Abidjan feel.

Diouf Meets Mauritanian Minister

AB291243 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Concerning this unjust war imposed on the Burkinabe revolution by imperialism, the meeting of Noaggression and Defense Aid Agreement Extraordinary Ministerial Council meeting finally opened this morning after being called off yesterday due to the absence of Mali. Apart from Burkina Faso and Mali, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo, are taking part in the meeting. At this extrordinary meeting, the main topic to be exmined is the proposals to be submitted to both sides to reach a true cease-fire agreement and take the necessary steps to avoid such further conflicts.

Meanwhile, intensive efforts are still under way to solve the conflict and it is in this vein that the armed conflict between Mali and Burkina Faso was examined during the discussions held between President Abdou Diouf of Senegal and current OAU chairman, and the Mauritanian foreign affairs minister, lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, it was learned from an authoritative source from Dakar this morning.

Cease-Fire Agreement Detailed

AB291505 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1450 GMT 29 Dec 85

["Important message" — read by announcer]

[Text] Comrade militants of the democratic and popular revolution, we can recall that for some days now, the Nigerian and Libyan officials have visited the two capitals of Burkina Faso and Mali in search of a peaceful solution. Those officials have despatched to us from Bamako the following communique:

Libyan-Nigerian communique: Following the Libyan and Nigerian mediation and the communications made by the president of Nigeria and the telephone communications between the brotherly leader and Presidents Sankara and Traore, the following immediate and total ceasefire agreement has been signed:

1. The withdrawal of the troops to their positions before the events started.

2. Halt to all measures that could lead to a deterioration of relations between the two brotherly countries.

3. The setting up of a military observer commission made up of Libya, Nigeria, Mali, Burkina Faso, and an OAU representative.

On behalf of the Burkinabe people, the National Council of the Revolution has given its consent to this Libyan-Nigerian communique. The fatherland or death, we will win!

Communique on Mali's Efforts To Pursue War

AB291847 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1827 GMT 29 Dec 85

[National Council of the Revolution communique]

[Text] The desire for peace of Burkina Faso cannot be denied. A testimony of this are the various examples of goodwill that it has demonstrated, since the beginning of this conflict, for a peaceful settlement. But, this demonstration of our preparedness to work for peace and good neighborliness is being thwarted by a clear desire of Mali to pursue the war with all the unavowed support it has received and perhaps with the hope of claiming victories as a cease-fire is approaching. But against these aggressive troops, our popular defense forces are carrying out very brilliant actions that have enabled the (Bailo) commandos in the west to stop the advance of about 40 tanks, to destroy four, and to rout the infantry. This is the first time that the Malian infantry has dared to make any advance behind tanks except in (?Benena). Still on the western front, the Lumumba commando unit has carried out victories incursions in the villges of Poua, (Fiong) and (Gonoma). Yes for peace, but in frankness and honesty. The fatherland or death, we will win!

IVORY COAST

Houphoet Mediates in Mali-Burkina Conflict

AB300820 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0745 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] As soon as he returned from his European trip last Saturday, the head of state, President Houphouet-Boigny, once again put his wisdom and his sense of realism at the service of harmony and understanding between African peoples, mainly between the brothers of Burkina Faso and Mali who have been engaged in an ceaseless war for some days now.

In fact, within the framework of the efforts initiated by heads of state of the Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD], which groups the two belligerent countries, as well as Senegal, Togo, Mauritania, Niger, and Ivory Coast, efforts

which are aimed at ending the conflict between the two sister countries of Burkina Faso and Mali, the president of the Republic, at the end of the first session of the extraordinary meeting of the ANAD ministerial council in Abidjan, last night dispatched a mission made up of the Ivorian ministers of foreign affairs and defense to Presidents Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso and Moussa Traore of Mali. This mission was aimed at getting the signatures of the two presidents to the joint governmental declaration under which the two heads of state agree to a cease-fire as from today, 30 December 1985, at 0600 this morning. The mission has just returned to Abidjan. A communique will be issued today at about 0900 GMT [as heard] during the closing session of the extraordinary meeting of the ANAD ministerial council in Abidjan.

This is once again a victory for dialogue, the weapon of the strong and not the weak, as the president of the Republic often stresses.

Previous Return Reported
AB272159 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The president of the Republic, chairman of the party [Felix Houphouet-Boigny], who has just made a visit to Europe will return to Abidjan tomorrow, Saturday, at 1300. During his visit, the head of state participated in the 13th [figure as heard] summit meeting of heads of state of Africa and France in Paris, and granted many audiences to heads of state or their representatives. It can be recalled that the president of the Republic, at his own request, received the Israeli prime minister, Mr Shim'on Peres. During their discussions, the two statesmen decided to propose to their respective governments, the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Ivory Coast. There can be no doubt that the Ivorian population will demonstrate its attachment to its guide, as should be the case, by going in large numbers to the airport, and on the road from Port Bouet [Abidjan Airport] to the presidential palace in Plateau.

LIBERIA

Two Ex-Ministers, Others Wanted for Part in Coup
AB281810 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 1710 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Justice Minister Jenkins Scott says 12 persons including 7 former government officials are wanted by the government of Liberia for their alleged involvement in the November 12 abortive invasion. He told a press conference here that former Foreign Minister H. Boimah Fahnbulleh, former LEC [Liberian Electricity Corporation] managing Director Harry Yuan, former *NEW LIBERIAN* editor in chief, Tom Kamara, former Emigration Bureau Commissioner Tony King, former Senator of Sinoe County Taylor Major; former general manager of the Roberts International Airport, Archie Williams, and former Labor Minister Moses Doupu were wanted by the board of enquiry investigating individuals involved in the November 12 invasion led by the late former commanding general Thomas Quiwonkpa.

Others wanted are Mr Chalres Kamara, Joe Wallie of the University of Liberia, Mr Joseph Lea, Mr Weah Dollie, and Cooper Teah. Minister Scott said the board of enquiry has had information that those named to report before it were involved in the planning and execution of the November 12 invasion here. He said Mr Fahnbulleh reportedly recruited Laurence Wallace to participate in the invasion while the former foreign minister supplied hardwares and uniforms for the mercenaries.

24 Civilians To Be Tried
AB271730 Paris AFP in English 1707 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Monrovia, Dec 27 (AFP) — The trial of 24 civilians who are alleged to have been linked to last month's foiled coup in Liberia will begin next week, Justice Minister Jenkins Scott has said here.

In an interview published by the government-owned *NEW LIBERIAN* newspaper this week, Mr Scott said four of the detained civilians would be charged with reason, and the 20 others were still being questioned to determine their level of invovement.

The maximum penalty for treason under Liberia law is death.

Although Mr Scott did not name those due to be tried, the paper said it was "most likely" that they would include Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and Jackson Doe, two prominent members of the opposition Liberia Action Party (LAP).

Mr Doe, who is no relation of President-elect Samuel Doe, was the LAP's candidate in the presidential election in October.

Allegations of widespread fraud in the election were seen as one of the causes of the abortive coup on November 12.

Mr Scott said some 50 civilians had already been freed because of a lack of sufficient evidence against them, but warned that those released could "still be rounded up upon the discovery of new evidence." Mr Scott added that Liberians involved in the abortive coup would be charged with treason, whereas non-Liberians would be charged with the offences of "mercenarism."

Samuel Doe, who has ruled this West African state since a coup in 1980, is due to be sworn in as president next week. [as received].

Unity Party Condemns '12 November Episode'
AB261533 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 0655 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] The Unity Party has denounced all forms of violence and condemned the 12 November episode. The chairman of the Unity Party, Mr Carlos Smith, told LINA [LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY] on Tuesday that the Unity Party does not believe in violence, reprisals, or revenge, and any act along those lines and tending to destabilize the state is frowned upon by the party.

The Unity Party statement followed the meeting with the head of state, CIC [Commander in Chief] Dr Samuel K. Doe, Tuesday, at the Executive Mansion, where the party's standard-bearer, Dr

Jabaru Carlon, and Chairman Smith, discussed matters of importance to the Liberian state and its people. Mr Smith further told LINA that during the meeting the head of state's continued call for unity and reconciliation was also pressed on.

NDPL Chairman on Parties' Refusal To Take Seats

AB271043 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The chairman of the National Democratic Party of Liberia [NDPL], Keikura Kpoto, has said the refusal of certain political parties to take their seats in the new legislature will in no way hamper the ongoing process to return the country to civilian rule on January 6. Speaking in an interview with the LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY recently, Mr Kpoto said it was a prerogative of the Special Elections Commission, Secom, to determine what to do with the rejected seats. He said the absence of those elected under the tickets of parties will not prevent the legislature from convening after the inauguration of the president-elect.

Mr Kpoto said the only thing that could prevent the new legislature from convening is lack of quorum, but added that there is majority in the just-formed legislature. Chairman Kpoto, who is senator-elect for Lofa County, further observed that opposition parties had the right to do whatever they like with their seats so long as it was in line with the laws of the country.

MALI

Burkinabe Air Force Raid Against Sikasso Confirmed

AB271109 Paris AFP in French 1047 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Bamako, 27 December (AFP) — Mali confirmed on Friday the Burkinabe Air Force attack against the Malian town of Sikasso, some 250 km southeast of Bamako, announced by Radio Ouagadougou on Thursday evening. In a communique, the Malian Ministry of Defense announced that this attack made two victims: a mother and her child who were killed in the bombing raid, thus bringing to three the number of persons killed in Mali since the beginning of the counterattack, according to Bamako.

For it part, the Burkinabe national radio has estimated Malian losses as a result of this air operation to "at least 15 dead and about 30 wounded.

Al-Turayki Meets Traore; Comments

AB271529 Bamako Domestic Service in French
505 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the party, president of the Republic and minister of national defense, granted an audience yesterday afternoon to a joint mission comprising the foreign ministers of Niger, Benin, and Togo — members of the Entente Council and [words indistinct]. The talks dealt with the situation created by Burkina Faso as its border with Mali.

The delegation is a goodwill mission designed to find a solution to the painful border conflict created by the Burkinabe leaders. It was dispatched by Presidents Eyadema, Kountche, Kerekou, and (?Chadli Bendjedid).

Gen Moussa Traore granted another audience yesterday afternoon to the secretary of external liaison of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah who brought him a message from President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Mr Al-Turayki, who later went to Burkina Faso, came back to Bamako this morning. The Libyan secretary of foreign liaison was received soon after his arrival by Gen Moussa Traore, the secretary general of the party, president of the Republic, and minister of national defense. After the audience, Mr Al-Turayki told Amara Conde the purpose of his approaches by the authorities of the two countries.

[Begin Al-Turayki recording] [Words indistinct] because I am very pleased: I found both Gen Moussa Traore and President Sankara well disposed. I think that the two leaders are conscious of the danger; they are also consicous of the need to stop that war and (?promote understanding) between the two brotherly and friendly peoples. The two leaders have accepted the good offices of Libya, of the leader of Libyan revolution. (?We are working out) the modalities for a cease-fire and the end of the fighting. A promise by the two heads of state to [words indistinct] [end recording]

Present at the audience this morning were the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Alioune Blondin Beye, the diplomatic adviser to the head of state, and the secretary general of the presidency.

Diplomat Explains Christmas Counteroffensive

AB271340 Dakar PANA in English
1328 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Dakar, 27 Dec (PANA) The Malian ambassador to Senegal has declared that his country had effectively dealt with Wednesday's armed aggression by Burkina Faso forcing it to seek a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

Ambassador Nfagnanama Kone said in an interview with PANA yesterday: In launching a counteroffensive last Wednesday, Mali has put an end to the aggressions of Burkina Faso which is now beginning to show signs of its willingness to negotiate for a peaceful settlement of the conflict. In case these negotiations should fail, Mali will lose its patience and will be ready to pay the price of the war, the ambassador said.

He denied several deaths on the Malian side as announced by Burkinabe communiques on the fighting along their common border.

Asked about the ideological differences between the two neighbouring countries, the Malian ambassador stressed that no ideological debate was at stake.

The revolution in Burkina Faso does not bother us. In the past we have had to coexist with neighbouring countries of different

ideological orientations. Our action is approved by the Malian people as a whole who are behind our leader, President Moussa Traore, he said.

Ambassador Kone, who was formerly his country's minister of rural development, spoke about the background and development of the conflict, using a statement issued by the Malian Government dated 21 Dec.

President Traore Receives Ghanaian Delegation
AB272155 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpt] This afternoon, the head of state received a Ghanaian delegation led by the prime minister [as heard] and comprising the chief of staff of the Ghanaian Armed Forces. Their discussions touched on the situation created by the Ouagadougou authorities at the border between the two countries.

Communique Says Cease-Fire Terms Defined
AB280016 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2359 GMT 27 Dec 85

["Important Government communique" read by announcer]

[Text] Faithful to its permanent policy of peace, cooperation, and dialogue, the Malian government, during the various exchanges of views with brotherly and friendly countries, has defined the conditions for an eventual cease-fire in the conflict opposing the Republic of Mali to the brotherly country of Burkina Faso. Thus it is important to take into account the modalities that could be agreed upon in the usual forms and expressed by authoritative officials. Of course, the Government of Mali is entirely prepared for the search of all appropriate solutions to this conflict.

Minister Says No Libyan Plane Seized
AB280135 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Summary] The minister of information and telecommunications, Madame Ngakou Fatou Niang, gave a pressconference this afternoon in the Conference Hall of the Autonomous Sinking Fund in Bamako. Several national and foreign reprters took part in the press conference. Before answering the questions, the minister of information and telecommunications made an opening statement in which she recalls the historical background of the situation created by Burkina Faso at our border:

[Begin recording] [Niang] "Ladies and gentlemen, since 25 December, the Malian Army has been engaged in a military operation aimed restoring the state's sovereignty on Malian villages which the Burkinabe authorities had been occupying militarily under the falacious pretense of a population census." Not having any territorial ambitions, and "desirous to give definitive clarifications to the Malian and international community," the Malian Government issued a letter of information on the Malian-Burkinabe border dispute.

[Unidentified reporter] Madame Minister, last night at about 2225, a communique announced that the Burkinabe forces had attacked the town of Zegoua. What is the situation? Also, in the face of the strategy adopted by the Burkinabe radio which deliberately inflates the death toll, what instructions have been given to the national press, and particularly to the Malian radio.

[Niang] The strategy to be adopted is that of a war situation.

[Unidentified reporter] Madame Minister, persistent "rumors of the Libyan aircraft carrying arms for Burkina Faso" have been reported. Is this true?

[Niang] "We have good ties with the Libyan Jamahiriyah. We categorically deny this fallacious rumor. No Libyan aircraft carrying weapons has been seized. I believe it is not even opportune to expatiate on this question." [end recording]

Minister Says Sankara Decreed War on 19 Dec
AB280822 Paris AFP in French 0745 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Bamako, 27 Dec (AFP) — Burkinabe head of state Captain Thomas Sankara had decreed a declaration of war against Mali on 19 December, Information and Telecommunications Minister Gakou Fatou Niang stated Friday.

In a press conference, Mrs Niang stated that proofs of this declaration of war, which was prior to the Malian counteroffensive launched on 25 December, were contained in decrees signed by President Sankara and seized on Burkinabe soldiers made prisoners by Malian army.

She also affirmed that before the Malian counteroffensive, five Malian civilians from the village of Dioulouna in the disputed zone, had "died on tourtures" inflicted on them by Burkinabe soldiers, and that these Burkinabe soldiers had forced between 500 and 900 inhabitants of this village to move to other areas.

No Confirmation From Bamako on Cease-Fire
AB280831 Paris AFP in French 0801 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Dakar, 28 Dec (AFP) — No confirmation given in Bamako on Saturday morning on the eventual cease-fire agreement announced in Dakar on Friday night in a communique from the OAU chairmanship.

The Malian minister of foreign affairs, Alioune Blondin Beye told AFP that he had not been notified of any cease-fire. Radio Mali, monitored in Dakar, in its 0700 GMT newscast, did not mention this cease-fire which was to come into force at 0000 GMT today.

The Malian radio reported motions of support for the head of state, General Moussa Traore, and voluntary contributions made to the Malian Army. The national radio also recalled that several African missions of good offices continue to arrive in the country. The Malian president thus received in Bamako on Friday thz Libyan foreign minister as well as envoys of the Algerian, Togolese, Beninese, and Niger presidents.

Military Communique Reports Air Attacks in Burkina
AB281520 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Ministry of National Defense Communique No.5 — read by announcer]

[Text] Loyal to its sacred mission of defending the integrity of the national territory, the Malian Army continues honorably, courageously, and determinedly to win victories over the aggressor. As a result, in reprisal for the raid on the city of Sikasso which left four dead and four wounded — all of them civilians — followed by an infiltration into the same zone, our armed forces have repelled the aggressor, penetrated into Burkinabe territory, and totally annihilated their (?forces) and the fortified positions of the enemy at Koloko and have withdrawn to their initial position after suffering one dead and eight wounded.

In addition, precise military targets were destroyed at Djibo, Ouahigouya, Dedougou, and Tougan. Our planes have all returned to their base. These operations caused many losses among the enemy troops. However, during an operation 6 km from Mare de Soum, one of our soldiers became lost and was taken prisoner.

The minister of national defense calls on the population to continue to be calm and vigilant and to remain confident in their army, which will not fail in its duty.

Al-Turayki Received by President Traore
LD281532 Tripoli JANA in English 1410 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Athani 15, Dec 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- President Moussa Traore of Mali yesterday received, for the second time, in Bamako, Dr 'Alial-Turaki, secretary of the People's Committee for theForeign Liaison Bureau.

The meeting came within the framework of theinitiative undertaken by the leader of the revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and his great role for the stability ofthe African Continent and settlement of the border dispute between Mali and the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso.

Sankara Reportedly Escapes 'Attempt'
AB282050 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] According to (?reports) by our foreign confreres, meaning the foreign radio stations, Captain Thomas Sankara has reportedly escaped an attempt perpetrated by one of his (?corporals).

No Confirmation of Cease-Fire Agreement
AB291108 Paris AFP in French 1058 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Bamako, 29 Dec (AFP) — The cease-fire agreement between Mali and Burkina Faso announced by JANA on Sunday morning has not been confirmed by the diplomatic sources concerned in Bamako. Questioned by AFP, two diplomats, a Libyan and a Nigerian, affirmed that no agreement has been signed yet and that negotiations were continuing.

Communique No 6 on 28 December Fighting
AB291215 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1202 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Ministry of National Defense Communique No.6 — read by announcer]

[Text] The Malian Army, faithful to its sacred mission of defending the national territorial integrity, continues with honor, courage and determination to triumph over the enemy. On 28 December 1985, as part of its operations in defense of the national territory, our armed forces violently repulsed the enemy which had infiltrated into (?Kouri).

During this fighting, the enemy left behind 10 dead, various weapons and 4 soldiers taken prisoner. The minister of national defense assures the people that nothing can divert the Army's attention from its duty to the fatherland, and it will never be found wanting in doing so.

Foreign Minister Says No Agreement Yet
AB292120 Dakar Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] A third cease-fire agreement emerged this afternoon between the two countries, but only Burkinabe radio has reported the agreement. Let us listen to a statement made at 1700 by Alioune Blondin Beye, Mali's foreign minister, who is in Abidjan:

[Begin recording] [Beye] As of 1715 today, the Government of the Republic of Mali has not signed either a joint communique of a cease-fire with anybody whatsoever. In any case, we have come to attend, on behalf of the government of our country, the meeting of the Nonagrgression and Defense Aid Agreement, ANAD, which began today, Sunday at 0930 in Abidjan. The meeting is proceeding under satisfactory conditions.

[Unidentified reporter] [Words indisitnct] negotiations?

[Beye] Yes [words indistinct]. Right now, as I am talking to you the parties have been able to meet within the framework of our subregional organization, ANAD. We will attend the meeting. So time should be allowed for the meeting. [end recording]

The ANAD meeting began this morning in Abidjan in the presence of the foreign ministers of the seven member countries: Burkina Faso, Mali, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Togo, and Senegal. The working sessions are being held behind closed doors.

Mali Reportedly Accepts Cease-Fire

AB292325 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2313 GMT 29 Dec 85

["Two Very Urgent and Very Important Communiques" — read by announcer]

[Text] After the announcement by Burkina Faso Today, Sunday 29 December 1985 at 1500 GMT on Radio Ouagadougou of the proclamation by the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution of Burkina Faso of a cease-fire resulting from a joint mediation by the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the Central Executive Bureau of the Democratic Union of Malian People and the government held an extraordinary session today, Sunday, 29 December at 1900 to examine the conflict situation.

Mali, which has never tired of calling for reason and which remains loyal to its policy of peace and good-neighborliness, proclaims the cease-fire in conformity with the following text submitted by the mediation commission: Joint Communique Prepared by the Nigerian and Libyan Ministers of Foreign Affairs:

Following Nigerian and Libyan mediation, the efforts made by Nigerian President Babangida, and the personal contacts made by the leader of the Libyan Revolution with the two heads of state of Mali and Burkina Faso, the two states have agreed on the following:

A. An immediate cease-fire and end to all hostilities;

B. Withdrawal of the troops to the positions they occupied before the beginning of the hostilities;

C. The setting up of a military observers' team comprising Libya, Nigeria, Mali, and Burkina Faso, and a representative of the current OAU chairman;

D. The cessation of any act likely to further deteriorate the fraternal relations existing between the two countries.

Issued in Bamako on 29 December 1985.

Traore Signs Cease-Fire Agreement

AB300739 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] A cease-fire between Mali and Burkina Faso went into force at 0600 GMT. In fact, it was at 0300 GMT that General Moussa Traore, president of the Republic and minister of national defense, put his signature on the document concerning the agreement on the stopping of hostilities presented by a delegation of the ANAD [Non-Aggression and Defense Aid Agreement]. This mission, sent by Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, first of all went to Ouagadougou. Led by Simeon Ake, Ivorian minister of foreign affairs, the mission comprised the Ivorian minister of defense and the secretary general of the ANAD, General Gomis.

The head of state was on this occasion accompanied by General (Bougari) Sangare, chief of General Staff of the Army; Colonel Abdoulaye (Oulegem), head of the military office; Colonel Mamadou Coulibaly, chief of staff of the Air Force; Major Coulibaly, deputy chief of staff of the Army; the secretary general at the president's office Mohamed Alousseini Toure; and Tidjane (Kissey), diplomatic adviser to the head of state.

Here is Simeon Ake speaking to Baba Daga, our reporter:

[Begin recording] [Ake] I would first of all like to take this opportunity to thank the president of the Republic for the kindness he showed to us by receiving us at 0300 [words indistinct] and also to enable us execute the mission we were assigned by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. As you know, an extraordinary meeting of the council of ministers of the ANAD was held to examine the situation prevailing between the two sister countries — Mali and Burkina Faso; a situation which causes a lot of pain to all the other sister countries of the ANAD in the subregion. We have tried to set up a certain number of measures to put an end to the hostilities between the two countries. The president of the Republic sent us to Ouagadougou and Bamako to have the document, by which the two heads of state agree to a cease-fire as early as tomorrow, signed.

We have just accomplished this objective. The document was signed in Ouagadougou by President Sankara, and President Moussa Traore has just put his signature on the document, and the cease-fire will then go into force at 0600. I think the document that we shall issue at the end of the Council of Ministers [words indistinct] will give more details because as chairman of the Council of ministers, I want to inform other members of the Council about this session. For the moment, we came here only to have the statement, by which Presidents Sankara and Moussa Traore decide to immediately end hostilities, signed.

[Daga] Mr Minister, during your talks, did you foresee the possibility or did you envisage a meeting between the heads of state?

[Ake] We think the situation is such that in order to completely settle it and establish peace and install friendly relations of good-neighborliness between Burkina Faso and Mali, it perhaps it would be useful that the two heads of state should meet, and I think this is to be envisaged, but [words indistinct].

SENEGAL

Diouf Urges Mali, Burkina to End Hostilities

AB271236 Dakar PANA in French 1200 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpts)0 Dakar, 27 December (PANA) — In his position as current chairman of the OAU, Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf has issued an appeal from Dakar to Presidents Sankara and Traore to put a stop to the hostilities between the their Armies.

Mr Diouf recalled that the dispute, which has already been submitted to the special chamber of the International Court of

Justice, has reached the stage of a legal settlement. He announced that the Council of Ministers of the Nonaggression and Mutual Defense Assistance Agreement (ANAD) will meet on Saturday (28 December) in order to take all practical measures in the disputed area.

On the occasion of this audience, Gen Lansana Conte expressed his support for a peaceful settlement of the border conflict. It will be recalled that there exists a defense and solidarity pact between Guinea and Mali. Malian armament from Europe, notably the Soviet Union, passes through port of Conakry.

Guinea played an important role in the settlement of this conflict in 1974 when war was raging in this same border area. The former Guinean president, Sekou Toure, had summoned Presidents Sangoule Lamizana and Moussa Traore to Conakry [words indistinct].

TOGO

Foreign Minister on Burkina-Mali Cease-Fire Efforts

AB271322 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, this morning received in audience the delegation comprising the foreign ministers of Togo, Benin, and Niger as well as the adviser of the Algerian foreign minister, who are visiting the subregion in order to find a peaceful solution to the border conflict between Burkina Faso and Mali. Following is the statement made by one of the members of the commission, the Togolese foreign minister:

[Begin recording] Judging from the composition of the delegation, you will note at once that the Entenet Council is focusing on the new conflict between Burkina F and Mali. As you know, we have been making roundtrips in the region for a week now in order to find ways and means to achieve a cease-fire, an end to the hostilities, so that two Malian and Burkinabe peoples may devote themselves to tasks of development.

We did not go to the war theater. We went to the capitals. (?Judging from our discussions) with the arrring heads of state, we have noted that there is good will on both sides to stop the hostilities. The tasks now is to find the ways and means as I have just said; that is, the essential conditions for an effective cease-fire.[passage indistinct][end recording]

ANGOLA

Sao Tome President Arrives on Private Visit

MB291049 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe yesterday began a 24-hour private visit to Angola. Manuel Pinto da Costa was received yesterday at the 4th February International Airport by the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The Sao Tomean president is accompanied by Francisco Fortunato Pires, minister of justice, and Agostinho Rita, state secretary for planning, and also by Aristo Castelo David, the Sao Tomean ambassador to Angola.

The Sao Tomean delegation met informally yesterday afternoon with Lopo do Nascimento, minister of planning, and Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, minister of external relations. A dinner was scheduled for last night between Manuel Pinto da Costa and the Angolan head of state, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The private visit by Manual Pinto da Costa is due to end this morning.

UNITA Says Offensive Against Jumba Continuing

MB291029 [Clandestine] KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Communique issued by the UNITA Strategic Operational Command in Jamba — date not given]

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 29 Dec (KUP) — 1. The congress of the MPLA-Labor Party was a failure. The real Angolan people, the people who built colonial Angola [as received] were absent, and remain absent from the demonstrations and ploys of Soviet agents who now wear a new disguise that fits them like a wig.

A. The MPLA lied in pretending to have the power to expel Moscow lackeys such as Lucio Lara, Henrique Santos, and others. All that was done to prevent the United States from giving aid to the Angolan resistance led by UNITA. But it was in vain.

B. The offensive against Mavinga and Jamba is continuing on the western and eastern fronts. Angolans are being killed by bullets fired by Soviets and Cubans who command the poor FAPLA forces by slapping them about. Where is [Air Force Commander] Iko Carreira, who should have carried out the offensive succefully with his air force? Why was he expelled from the USSR?

2. What the people expected — and still do — from the Second Congress of the MPLA-Labor Party and the residents at Futungo de Belas in Luanda is peace and national reconciliation.

A. UNITA is not, nor can it ever be, South Africa's armed wing. SWAPO knows UNITA's history. Salim Salim helped build UNITA. President Kenneth Kaunda helped to confuse UNITA. It was he who, with Prime Minister Vorster, and on Kissinger's behalf, sent South African troops to intervene in Angola in 1975. UNITA remains the same, and it will always be the same. The international community should not forget that in 1967 President Kaunda agreed with the Portuguese International Police for Defense of the State [PIDE0) to hand over that undesirable, Savimbi, to the Portuguese in Luanda. The Savimbi of yesterday and today is the same. The name is not his own; it is the name of his father, who died in the PIDE prison at Bie, but this is neither convenient for the Portuguese Communist Party nor for the MPLA-Labor Party.

B. The MPLA-Labor Party is having serious problems in finding an apparently African solution. It depends totally on Moscow and on its representatives in Luanda, among whom Jose Eduardo dos Santos is currently the main figure.

3. With or without the United States and South Africa — which is currently absorbed by internal politics, and inversion on whether or not to retain the apartheid system — UNITA will remain faithful to the philosophy which led it into war in 1966. A few but long years have passed and the nation remains aware that 13 March 1966 saw a prelude to party longevity that is unequalled in Africa.

A. Despite the problems and hardship that may face us, the UNITA leadership does not accept Jose Eduardo dos Santos as the leader of the country and the MPLA as the representative of the poorest sections of the Angolan population. This is our challenge for 1986.

4. The UNITA Central Committee and the FALA command seriously warn the Portuguese Government headed by Cavaco e Silva not to enganger the presence of UNITA representatives in Lisbon, Coimbra, and Porto. They speak perfect Portuguese, which remains our sole link, as opposed to Mawete [Angolan ambassador to Portugal] who represents poorly our heritage of centuries, the heritage of Africans and Portuguese based on mutual respect and common history. UNITA will react accordingly to what it perceives as the government of Cavaco e Silva's decisions against us, and against the Alvor accords. UNITA is not reactionary movement like the FNLA. UNITA was never linked to RENAMO. In Angola, there are people whom the MPLA does not represent, and there is a force which South Africa does not command.

5. In 1986, the fatherland will not be discussed. It will be defended.

Jamba, Headquarters of the resistance, at the end of 1985.

(Signed) Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of UNITA and supreme commander of the FALA forces.

MOZAMBIQUE

Soviet Solidarity Delegation Ends Visit

MB271309 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The delegation of the Soviet solidarity committee led by (Sharipov Tahir), member of the Supreme Soviet, gave a press conference in Maputo today at the end of its visit to Mozambique.

The delegation has been in the country since Friday at the invitation of the Mozambique Association of Friendship and Solidarity With Peoples, AMASP. (Sharipov Tahir) told the media that his delegation has seen and understood the difficulties experienced by Mozambique in building a new society. The member of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Peoples stated that this visit will serve to promote the strengthening of cooperation between grassroot organizations in the two countries. The Soviet delegation, which is scheduled to leave Maputo today for the USSR, was received this morning by Armando Panguene, secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee.

Further Details

MB281036 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asia and African Countries, has today concluded its 1-week visit to Mozambique: During its stay in Mozambique, the Soviet delegation presented a $500,000 donation to assist people affected by natural disasters and by the criminal actions of the armed bandits in several regions of the country. The delegation held talks with the Mozambique Association for Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples, AMASP, and with the Organization of the Mozambican Woman, OMM, and visited some joint Mozambique-USSR cooperation projects.

(Sharipov Tahir), who is leading the delegation, told the media today that guidelines for cooperation between the committee and AMASP were discussed. (Tahir) added that his visit to Mozambique will strengthen the cooperation between the mass democratic organizations of the two countries. The Soviets visited some agricultural production centers around Maputo city and an OMM youth center. (Sharipov Tahir) said that his delegation saw and understood the difficulties experienced by the Mozambican people in constructing a new society.

During its visit, the Soviets saw how the Mozambican women led by OMM are engaged in the struggle for better living conditions. The need to continue asking for more funds for victims of the natural disasters and war was reiterated by the members of the Soviet delegation. The visiting delegation was received this morning by (Armando Beliana), secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee.

Maputo Reports Joint Operation Against MNR

MB291136 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Joint Mozambican Zimbabwean forces are reported to have killed 52 South African-backed MNR [Mozambique National Resistance] terrorists during an attack on their camp in central Mozambique. The camp, known as a Kachadea, had been used to launch attacks on the road and railroad which links landlocked Zimbabwe with the Sea. The Zimbabwean troops are helping Mozambique protect these routes which are attacked by the MNR, (?in attempts to make) Zimbabwe more dependent on South African railroads and ports.

SOUTH AFRICA

Police Arrest Winnie Mandela in Johannesburg

MB301430 Johannnesburg SAPA in English 1423 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 30, SAPA — Security police today arrested Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of the jailed African National Congress leader, soon after she arrived in Johannesburg on a flight from Cape Town, her legal representative said.

Further Details

MB301443 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1442 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 30, SAPA — Mrs Winnie Mandela, the wife of the jailed African National Congress leader, was arrested this afternoon on the highway between Jan Smuts Airport and Johannesburg, a spokesman for her lawyers said. Mr Prakash Diar said she was arrested by security police just inside Johannesburg's city limits. Under her banning order, Mrs Mandela is prohibited from entering the Johannesburg-Roodepoort magistrial districts. Jan Smuts Airport, where Mrs Madela arrived from Cape Town today after Christmas visit[illegible] her husband who is jailed in Pollsmoor Prison near Cape Town is just outside the Johannesburg's boundaries.

Mr Diar said the car in which Mrs Mandela, together with her daughter Zinzi and three grandchildren, was travelling was forced off the road by a security police vehicle.

"They pulled and manhandled her into their car," he claimed. Mrs Mandela was taken to the Krugersdorp police station, he added.

He said a number of police vehicles had raced alongside Mrs Mandela's car on the highway before forcing it off the road.

Her daughter, Zinzi, and three granddaughters were not arrested but had gone to the Krugersdorp police station in an attempt to see Mrs Mandela, he said.

Police in Pretoria could not give immediate confirmation of Mrs Mandela's detention, but a spokesman said he was making enquiries.

Efforts to Prevent Arrest

MB271325 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1323 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 27, SAPA — Mrs Winnie Mandela today remained in Cape Town to visit her husband, Nelson Mandela, at Pollsmoor prison. She was due to visit Mandela this afternoon and might return to Johannesburg today, according to a spokesman for her legal advisers, Mr Prakash Diar. In an attempt to have her recently amended banning order declared unreasonable and invalid, Mrs Mandela's attorneys today served papers on the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Gran, and

the commissioner of police, General Johan Coetze, he said. An application will probably be heard in the Johannesburg Supreme Court on January 7. Steps were being taken to prevent Mrs Mandela's rearrest pending the outcome of the hearing, he said. Mrs Mandela and family members were allowed to see Mandela for 40 minutes on Christmas Day.

SAP, SADF Statement on Operation 'Near Swaziland'

MB271613 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1612 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 27, SAPA — The South African police, supported by the South African Defence Force, carried out a joint operation in the Ingwavuma area near Swaziland the day before Christmas but there had been no incursions into Swaziland itself, a joint statement by the SAP and SADF said this evening. The statement to SAPA said the operation was a result of a "previous incident" when an African National Congress presence had been detected in the area. Weapons caches had also been found, the statement added.

"The Swaziland police were notified in advance of this action and there was by no means any incursion into Swaziland territory," the statement said without elaborating.

SADF Issues 'Firm Denial' on Swazi Border Crossing

MB271334 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1330 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 27, SAPA — After "further investigation" today into earlier allegations that South African troops had crossed into Swaziland this week and threatened residents, the SA Defence Force headquarters has now issued a firm denial.

An SADF spokesman said in Pretoria that "after further investigation the Defence Force confirms its previous denial tha members of the SADF were involved in operations in Swaziland."

Earlier today, in response to first reports that South African troops had crossed into south-eastern Swaziland and threatened to attack local residents if they gave shelter to guerrillas, the spokesman said "no confirmation of the allegations can be found," despite all possible enquiries.

"If more facts become available, the SADF will obviously be prepared to investigate further. The Republic of South Africa and the SADF wishes to live at peace with its neighbour Swaziland," he added.

Pik Botha Rejects Lesotho's Allegations

MB301159 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has issued a statement in Pretoria before the United Nations Security Council session in New York this evening. In it, Mr Botha says that he has instructed the acting permanent representative of South Africa at the United Nations to reject allegations by the Government of Lesotho about South Africa.

He has also instructed him to put clearly the South African viewpoint regarding the latest attempts by Lesotho to evade the real issue. The minsiter says Lesotho tries continually to evade its own problems and its backward slide by accusing South Africa of aggression and improper conduct. Mr Botha said he has the South African representative to advise the Security Council of the motives of Lesotho and to state clearly that Lesotho finds itself in the company of organizations such as the one which was responsible for the massacre in Rome.

Security Forces Kill 15 SWAPO insurgents in Angola

MB261750 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 27 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] South African security forces have killed a total of 15 SWAPO insurgents, destroyed seven caches of arms and knocked out a temporary base during their present raid into southern Angola. According to Pretoria sources, there have been a total of eight contacts between the security forces and SWAPO since the South Africans crossed the border about two weeks ago.

Six SWAPO members were killled in the first contact, while anothr nine have died during actions in the past few days. No SA deaths have been reported.

It has not been a quiet, festive Christmas in that part of Southern Africa, where two major conflicts are in progress.

The Angolan army, backed by about 20 000 Cubans, are trying for the second time this year to overrun Jonas Savimbi's Jamba headquarters in south-eastern Angola.

Further west, the SA forces are hunting down SWAPO insurgents in the "shallow area" north of the border to prevent them reaching SWA [South-West Africa] at the start of SWAPO's annual rainy-season offensive.

Earlier this week, Major-General George Meiring, who commands the SWA Territory Force said this year's SWAPO offensive was not expected to be as big as last year's. At some stages during the last offensive there were up to 400 insurgents inside SWA.

The SA Defence Force has refused to comment on the latest details to come from the war front or to say if and when its forces will withdraw from Angola.

Meanwhile, the tactical deployment of troops in parts of the eastern Caprivi earlier this month appears to have blocked SWAPO efforts to reopen that region as a second front in the 19-year-old border war.

According to sources in Caprivi, the security forces were aware that the SWAPO contingent had retreated and were expected to try to infiltrate through another route.

The sources would not give the insurgents' strength or where they

were from, but it seems most likely they would attempt to use Zambian territory, although there has been speculation that the group could be deploying from refugee camps in northern Botswana.

In 1978, SWAPO carried out a mortar bombardment from across the Zambian border, killing 10 soldiers based at Katima Mulilo.

Security forces lashed back at SWAPO bases across the Zambezi River, and Zambia moved the camps out of striking distance.

The sources believe SWAPO was trying to expolit the tribal conflict between the Mafwe and Sasubia tribes which share the far-eastern corner of the territory

Meiring said he did not believe President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia would voluntarily allow his country to be used for such purposes again for fear of SA retaliation.

PFP's Molly Blackburn Dies in Car Crash

MB290841 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Three people, including Mrs Molly Blackburn, the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] provincial council member for Walmer, and Mr Brian Bishop, husband of the PFP provincial council members for Cape Town, Mrs Di Bishop, were killed in a head-on collision near Kareedouw in the eastern Cape. Mrs Di Bishop and Mrs Molly Blackburn's sister, Mrs Judy Chalmers, were slightly injured in the accident. The driver of the other vehicle was also killed, but his name was not yet been released.

PPF Leader Comments

MB290852 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 0836 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Johannebsurg, Dec 29, SAPA — Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, the leader of the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] today expressed his "deep shock" at the news that Mrs Molly Blackburn, the MPC [Member of the Provincial Council] for Walmer and a prominent PFP activist in the eastern Cape, had died last night in a motor car accident.

In a statement to SAPA Dr Van Zyl Slabbert said:

"I am deeply shocked by the sudden and tragic death of Molly Blackburn. She was a courageous fighter for justice and had very high credibility and admiration from many black South Africans and colleagues.

"She will be sorely missed wherever communication between black and white is needed."

Zulu-Pondo Talks Breakdown Threatens More Violence

MB280552 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The threat of fresh tribal violence in Umbogintwini, south of the South African eastern coastal city of Durban, looms larger following the failure of peace talks between delegations from the Zulu and Pondo tribes. At least 58 people were killed in Christmas Day battle between 2,000 Zulus and 3,000 Pondos, and police are still searching the dense bush nearby for bodies.

The talks, arranged by South African police officers, have failed to remove the threat of renewed hostilities, as the local Zulu chief, Chief Makhanyana, ordered the Pondos to leave the area. Chief Makhanyana told the Pondo delegation that they have undermined his authority by appointing their own chief. The chief did not say what action would be taken if the Pondos did not obey his orders.

Chief Makhanyana said he would also expel anybody not registered in his area, regardless of whether they were Zulus or Pondos.

Further Details

MB271540 Umtata Captial Radio in English 1500 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] A Zulu chief has ordered Pondos involved in faction fighting in the Umbogintwini area to leave his territory by tomorrow. Mike Robertson has the story:

[Robertson] The meeting on how to resolve the dispute which has already claimed the lives of 58 people ended unsuccessfully today. Chief Bhekizetha Makhanya who controls the land in which the faction fights have been taking place, said at the end of the meeting that Pondos and others who have not been given permission to settle in the territory should leave by tomorrow. A member of the KwaZulu legislative assembly for Umlazi, Winnington Sabelo, who was also at the meeting said he feared that unless the people left immediately there would be more bloodshed. A large police contingent with nine casspirs was present throughout the meeting. A police spokesman said there will be ongoing negotiations to try and resolve the dispute. In the meantime, he hoped there would be a truce. Police would continue to maintain a strong presence in the area.

Death Toll Now 63

MB290450 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1343 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Durban, Dec 28, SAPA — Five more bodies were found today in Kwazulu's bushy Umbumbulu area where fierce faction fighting between 5000 Zulu and Pondo warriors took place this week. This brings the number of deaths to at least 63, but eye-witnesses and police said they would not be surprised if the figure rose to more than 100 once police started searching a forest near the area where the fighting took place.

Chief Buthelezi Comments

MB271653 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has reacted to the faction fighting on Christmas Day that claimed the lives of at least 58 people at Umbumbulu on the Natal south coast. In a special media release to the SABC at Ulundi, Chief Buthelezi said he had been deeply shocked to learn of the carnage. It was to be regretted, he said, that the fighting had begun over minor differences and that the conflict had been along ethnic lines. He said this strengthened the hand of those who said that blacks of different language groups could not live together peacefully.

Black Pupils To Resume Classes in January

MB300554 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] All black school pupils in the country will return to school for the new academic year next month. A resoultion to this effect was taken at a conference on the crisis in black education at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg over the weekend. A number of resolutions were adopted unanimously. They included ones on the supplying of free school books to black pupils and the abolition of school fees. The conference which was attended by about 400 delegates representing a number of organizations was held under the auspices of the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee.

Tutu 'Ultimatum'

MB290942 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0932 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 29, SAPA — Bishop Desmond Tutu today recommended black pupils conditionally return to school in 1986 and suggested the community should "down tools" if pupils' demands were not met in three months and delivered an ultimatum to the government that he would call for punitive sanctions if the demands were not met by the end of March.

"I want to suggest that we resolved that we are going back to school in 1986, but on very firm conditions," the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg told the conference on the crisis in black education in Johannebsurg this morning.

"We give the government three months to meet these conditions," Bishop Tutu said.

"If we go back with these conditions and we have a strict timetable, you will have the whole community behind you, because you are being reasonable ... and the community will support you."

"So let us call them requests, but we know they are demands.

"If the government refuses these requests in three months then it must not only be the students who are laying down tools ... teachers, parents, workers, church leaders, university staff and students must all combine in a concerted effort to say Wokhat (stop)."

"We are not threatening," he added. "We are only saying that if that does not happen, this will be a consequence."

He was changing his deadline for proposing sanctions, the bishop said.

"If by the end of March if these things are not happening, I will be one of thse who will call for punitive economic sanctions agianst the government."

He recommended that representatives of pupil, parent and teacher bodies present at the meeting set a number of conditions for a return to classes.

"We want free, elected SRC's (Student Representative Councils).

"We want COSAS Unbanned (Congress of South African Students).

"We want student leaders who are in detention to be released.

"We want suitable arrangements for catching up to be made," he said.

He said the government should accept the conference's decisions, which are expected to be taken today, on examinations.

He said a day should be set aside in every school's week for "conscientisation."

"We (then) set up a non-racial body that says we are preparing a curriculum, a syllabus, for the new South African educational system."

He recommended the government hand over most schools to the churches.

The churches were sympathetic to the cause championed by the 600-strong audience in the great hall at the University of the Witwatersrand and were on their side, he said.

"We must scrap 'ethnic' education, so that what we have in South Africa is education, education for all of the people of South Africa."

Bishop Tutu called for the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of detained pupils and political prisoners and readmission for exiles.

Bishop Tutu said school boycotts had been effective, but cautioned against an uneducated generation.

"The only people who will be rejoicing when our children are not educated wil be our enemies, it will be Pretoria."

If liberation came tomorrow, Bishop Tutu asked, who would be the engineers, computer experts and who would run ESCOM?

[Electricity Supply Commission]

"We must prepare now for a post-liberation South Africa." he said.

He praised the pupils, saying black adults had compromised for too long.

"We black adults must confess openly our complicity in our own oppression and let us be humble and properly ashemed of ourselves.

"I salute you young people, you have done us proud.

"Your struggle is our struggle. We are at one, all of us, that our goal is liberation.

"We want a new South Africa that is non-racial, just and truly democratic.

"A new South Africa in which we will have an education system that is appropriate to our land.

"No amount of casspirs, of teargas, of police bullets, of police dogs, of dentention and death will deter us."

He thanked the convenors of the conference, the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee, for organising an important consultation on a crucial subject.

In opening his address, the Nobel Peace laureate had prayed for the blessing of God.

He ended by requesting the audience to join hands, asking them to repeat: "Forward to a new South Africa. Forward to a united South Africa. Forward to a non-racial South Africa. Forward to a democratic and just South Africa. Forward to a free South Africa."

Bishop Tutu, in a white robe with scarlet sash, then hurried to deliver a sermon on the East Rand.

Final resolutions of the conference, which drew delegates from educational bodies throughout the country, are expected this afternoon.

Racial Violence, Incidents Reported

16 Killed in Soweto 27 Dec

MB271441 Umtata Captial Radio in English 1400 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] It has been another crime-filled Christmas period in Soweto. Police say 16 people were killed and 12 raped over the Christmas holidays. Area CID [Criminal Investigations Division] chief Colonel James (Bierslar) says in one incident a man was shot and killed when about 150 youths attacked inmates of the Deep Meadow hostel. The youths fled when the hostel inmates then reportedly attacked people from nearby houses. Col (Bierslar) says murders this year are two down on last year's total for the same period.

27 Dec Report, 8 Dead

MB271717 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1715 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 27, SAPA — Following is the 7pm unrest report as supplied by the public relations division of the SA police:

At KwaMakuta (south of Durban) the bodies of five black men were found. Their deaths were probably due to the present faction fighting in the area. In Soweto (Johannesburg) a group of blacks stoned a house and thereafter set furniture alight causing fairly extensive damage.

In the black residential area of Steynsburg (South Western Districts) four black men were wounded, three fatally, when members of the SAP fired birdshot and tearsmoke when a large group of black stoned a police vehicle damaging it.

In Sandbult (Burgersdorp) residential area the private home of a nursing sister was gutted when set alight by arsonists.

At Cradock (Eastern Province) offices of the dvelopment board were also damaged by petrol bombs. In Athlone (Western Province) a police vehicle was extensively damaged by an unruly mob.

Four Children Released

MB271720 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1705 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 27, SAPA — Police have confirmed that four children were released from detention under the emergency regulations on Christmas Eve One of the released children, Ridwaan Karriem, is 14 while another, Paulus Ramncwana, is 15. The other two children, Nkosial Manxin and Mathews Manxin, are aged around 14. All four are from Worcester.

Their detentions was revealed after the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, had clarified a statement that there were no children under the age of 16 in detentions in the western Cape on November 30 by saying that he was not referring to the Boland area. It is not known whether a fifth child, Hans Harmse, 15, has been released yet.

28 Dec Police Report

MB280634 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 0631 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Following is the police 7am unrest sitution report for the past 24 hours.

In Babeledi, near Upington, a group of youths threw stones at a police vehicle. One coloured youth was arrested.

In Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, a private vehicle was gutted after

being set alight by arsonists.

In Van Wyksvlei, near Wellington, a bus was competely destroyed after being set alight by blacks. In Soweto a small group of blacks robbed a driver of his delivery vehicle and in two other incidents slight damage was caused when a police vehicle and a private vehicle were stoned. In the black residential area Cradock a private residence as fired on by an unknown person. Police returned fire with an R1 rifle and a pistol. No injuries reported and the man escaped.

Violence at Durban Beachfront

MB280708 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Violence erupted on the Durban beachfront for the second time in as many days. It is reported a group of Africans invaded the Indian beach, stoning cars and forcing bathers to flee. Police and beach staff quickly brought the situation under control On Thursday morning, two people were injured in a similar incident when a roup of Africans wielding weapons reportedly attacked bathers on the same beach. Police say they will maintain extra patrols in the area over the New Year holiday period.

Police Ban Athlone Meeting

MB290456 Johannebsurg SAPA in English 1446 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 28, SAPA — A planned mass meeting that was to have been held in Athlone tomorrow has been banned, the divisional commissioner of police in the Western Province Division, Brigadier Chris Swart, said in Cape Town today, SABC radio news reported today. In a statement Brig Swart said he had banned the meeting, planned by the Athlone Education Crisis Committee, in the Kismet Cinema, Klipfontein Road, Athlone, in terms of the public safety act. The ban will remain in force until midnight on January 26 next year.

29 Dec Report

MB290618 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0613 GMT 29 Dec 85

["Unrest: 8 AM report"]

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 29, SAPA — At Mbekwini in Paarl police using tearsmoke yesterday evening dispersed a large number of blacks who had gathered illegally. Later on two private vehicles were gutted when set alight by arsonists.

In Atteridgeville near Pretoria, a petrol bomb hurled at a private house caused slight damage. In another incident a black man and woman were arrested after a police vehicle was stoned.

At Mohlankeng, Vereeninging a private home was slightly damaged by stonethrowers. At Pabapelo near Upington three minor incidents of stonethrowing at police vehicles occurred.

Police Arrests in Durban Explosion

MB300451 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1753 GMT 29 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 29, SAPA — Arrests have been made in connection with the limpet mine blast on December 23 in Amanzimtoti, when two women and three children died and 48 people were injured.

A statement by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, about guerrilla attacks in Durban, said tonight:

"Various people have already been arrested, two of those arrested are being questioned in connection with the Amanzimtoti blast.

"A large quantity of overseas manufactured weapons including submachine guns, personnel mines, hand grenades and a vehicle landmine as well as a quantity of explosive and subservisive literature were confiscated.

"The investigation continues and it is expected that more arrest will be made."

"During the past year a series of terrorist attacks have taken place in and around Durban," he said.

"The ANC (African National Congress) have accepted responsibility for the majority of these attacks.

"The methods, weapons and explosives used in these attacks, are similar to those usually used by the ANC.

"These attacks include, among others, the explosion at the Grosvenor Girls High School, shortly before the parliamentary by-elections during October in Port Natal and in the later explosions at the PUTCO [public transport company] bus depot in Umlazi, the Mobeni post office, Chatsworth Magistrates Court, Umlazi, the police station in Kwazulu, The Natalia Development Board in Lamontville, the XL Tea Room on the South Coast, a number of chain stores in the centre city area, the home of Minister Rajbansi, etc.

On Saturday December 21 a limpet mine exploded under a combi in Pine Street, Durban, injuring two children and a woman.

30 Dec Police Report

MB300710 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0706 GMT 30 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 30, SAPA — Following is police situation report on unrest to 8am today:

Isolated incidents of unrest, consisting mainly of petrol bomb attacks, occurred at various places yesterday evening and during the night. At Mbekweni near Paarl, two policemen were slightly injured when petrol bombs were hurled at their vehicle. They were forced to use tear smoke and eventually birdshot to disperse the group. Two black men were arrested during the incident.

At Kayamandi near Stellenbosch an administration board

employee fired shots at a group of blacks who attacked and stoned his vehicle. One black woman was injred.

In the black township near Robertson, a black man was injured when a house owner defended his property against a small group of blacks who tried to use petrol bombs to set his house on fire. The injured man escaped from hospital where he was taken for treatment.

At Lingilihle near Cradoc blacks set a home alight by hurling petrol bombs at it.

In the black residential area near Aliwal North, police used tear smoke and arrested a black man during a stonethrowing incident.

In the black township near Landsdowne in the western Cape, a shop was extensively damaged after being set alight by a small group of blacks.

And in Soweto on the WWR [Witwatersrand] and Soshanguvu near Pretoria two homes were set alight after petrol bombs were hurled at them.

Press Reviews Past Year, Prospects for Future

[Editorial Report] **Insurance Blacklist**

Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 29 December reports that "a top insurance company has secretly blacklisted posh white areas as 'unacceptable' risks. It is believed that the exclusions are related to the danger of increased unrest in South Africa." The list includes some of the southern Transvaal's elite residential areas as well as suburbs close to black areas and black bus routes.

Speculation on Mandela Release

"A defiant Mrs Winnie Mandela is due to leave Cape Town this week to return to Soweto," the paper reports. While in Cape Town, Mrs Mandela's frequent visits to her husband "have fuelled speculation that negotiations to secure his release may have begun." Mr Mandela's two attorneys have revealed that they have held a 4-hour consultation with the Mandelas. One said the talks centered on "family matters" and dealt with Mrs. Mandela's new restrictions.

Lesotho Raid Victims

According to an article by Stephan Terblanche, "five of the nine people shot dead in last week's mystery Maseru raid were highly-trained members of the ANC's military wing, and have been linked to several other attacks in South Africa." Raiders, who allegedly are white South Africans, burst into a Christmas party in Maseru and killed seven, killing two more in another location several kilometers away. "It is believed that the Lesotho-based ANC squad had planned a series of terror attacks inside South Africa to take place two days later than the day on which they were killed."

Educational Conference

In a report on the conference in Johannesburg to discuss black education, Cas St Leger reports on the opening address by Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa of the South African Catholic Bishops Conference. Mkhatshwa told participants that "truly democratic education is an integral part of the struggle for total liberation and a new society" and he said that the current schools "must be taken over and transformed" although this could not ultimately be done without "access to national resources and power to plan on a national basis for a new educational system." He concluded by saying that the government "is in big trouble. People want the struggle for total liberation to move forward on all fronts."

'Apartheid Fence' Torn Down

A report from Camps Bay, near Cape Town, says that a protest group tore down an "'apartheid fence'" at Camps Bay for the second time this month. The fence became the center of attention when the Cape Town City Council fenced off part of the beach to become a paid beach, which some regard as "a disguised form of apartheid." A mystery group "Squirt" has claimed responsibility for tearing it down.

Shopping Center Security

The paper reports on security measures being taken at the country's shopping centers, which have been on "full alert since the beginning of December." The Carleton Center in Johannesburg has been fitted with a blast film which keeps windows from shattering in an explosion and a number of centers have mesh wastebins so police can identify suspicious objects. "Shopping precincts are regarded by police throughout the world as prime targets for terrorist bombings."

SUNDAY TIMES On 1985

In its editorial, the paper examines the past year, noting that at the beginning of the year "after 35 years of marching South Africa resolutely up one of history's blindest alleys, the Nationalist Party discovered — and admitted — its horrendous mistake." When the president spelled out his message which many South Africans of all colors longed to hear, his words fell on deaf ears because of all that had happened in the streets. "In 1985 the government lost the initiative and South Africa lost its way. Whether or not it finds it again depends, critically, on Mr Botha's ability to decide just where he is leading the country, to spell it out clearly and unambiquously and then to put his reforms into practice with all possible speed."

Says Apartheid Going

In a review of the year's developments, Otto Kraus says that there are still good working relationships within South Africa which should not be destroyed but should take account of "our potent nationalisms, black and white." He notes that the government abandoned the policy of apartheid on 25 January but the government has been "caught on the wrong foot" for not having said so "loudly and clearly enough." "But the word apartheid remains on the books whereas manifestly it should be discarded in the national interest. Not only in effect — as in January this year — but by declaration roundly that apartheid is no longer government policy."

Negotiating a New Deal

In his review of the year, Brian Pottinger says amid the unhappy events of the past year "there are tiny glimmerings of a new realism among black and white South Africans. And that is encouraging." One realization is by whites that the economy will

only improve when political problems are settled; "politics and power-sharing, then, go to the top of the agenda." Among black South Africans there is the realization that after all the township violence," state power remains untouched." A third realization is of the great gap between what blacks want and what the government will give. The fourth is "that the debate over constitutional options has not even been joined." The government has moved from a position of saying everything could be negotiated to saying it will put up options for consideration. Fundamental problems remain. The government still believes reform can be brought about with repression and the Namibia and Angolan problems may mean "a return to the dark years of military adventurism in the region." But most important, "a fractured and insecure black leadership, able to articulate their anger at the undeniable inequities of the present order, appears reluctant, or unable, to engage in the arduous task of negotiating a new one."

Schools Boycott

In an article on the Johannesburg meeting on black education, Caroly McGibbon reports a statement by a member of the Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee which recently met with the ANC saying that "we managed to establish that the slogan 'liberation now, education later' does not come from the ANC." He told the paper: "There is no evidence to suggest that the ANC supports the continued boycott." The paper says that the ANC position could have a "sobering influence on students who threatened that 1986 would be a 'no-school year' if their demands are not met."

Integrated Bathing

"Confortably mixed crowds have packed Cape Peninsula beaches over the Christmas holdiay, proving quietly to visitors and other South African resorts that mixing and sharing can be friction free," the paper says. A domestic row over pay beaches in Camps Bay remains, however. Crowds have been much smaller than in past years, however, which observers attributed to the poor economy.

Anti-war Records

The End Conscription Campaign has launched a peace offensive this Christmas with a record called " 'Forces' Favorites'" which features anti-war songs by local groups. According to a spokesman, the songs were "'aimed at highlighting the South African crisis and were anti-war and anti-apartheid.'"

A Reason to Smile

In an article entitled "Give Us a Reason to Smile" in the "Just Jon" column, Jon Qwelane notes that the past year has been "a bitter experience for all of us." On one hand there has been "ruthless state violence which decrees that sections of the population are inferior by virtue of their race" and on the other violence by "those who cannot tolerate state violence." He asks: "Can't we for a moment forget our lofty political ideas and discard our prejudices and selfishness? Is it not time we stopped seeing each other as black and white, but as man and man?" Rather than "throwing our hands in the air in utter defection and despair," the black and white people need to smile, "for the simple reason that when we smile the world smiles with us."

A Tactical Flop

Arleno Getz writes that "the state of emergency — a strong arm tactic to quell the country-wide violence — has flopped badly; its effects have been almost the opposite of those intended." The most obvious result of it "has been an increase instead of a decrease in bloodshed around the country." After the end of the first month of the emergency, the average political death toll had trebled and "in spite of more severe State actions," "almost 500 people are known to have died in incidents of political violence since July." Although President P.W. Botha promised to normalize conditions in the townships, "conditions of the country's millions of township residents is anything but normal. Black parents are afraid to work while their children are alone at home. They fear the mass arrests, curfews, roadblocks and constant security force patrols." On the possible lifting of the emergency, the article notes that the government does not want to lose face by appearing to bow to external pressure. The emergency has also served to desensitize the nation, particularly whites, "against repressive actions by the security forces." The government accordingly may lift the state of emergency in a piece-meal fashion, lifting it in some places and invoking it in others, but this may have little effect on residents "because emergency measures will have become accepted practice around the country." After the Sharpeville emergency, "the government wrote many of its previously extreme tactics into the statutue books."

STAR on Defeating the Terrorist

In its editorial "How to Defeat the Terrorists," the paper notes the events in Rome and Vienna and other incidents and says that South African must view the new year with trepidation as "the prospect of more slaughter seems perilously probable." Neighboring countries should have no illusions about the prospects of the country retaliating for terrorism, but this alone will not be sufficient because the country is so divided as a result of the inequality. "South Africa's tragedy is that, having excluded a vast section of the population from access to these opportunities for so long, we must now fight terrorism with one hand behind our backs." The only way to resolve this problem is to "take immediate steps to eliminate all those unjust aspects of our society and its law and to meet the legitimate political aspirations of the majority of the people."

Next Year's Decisions

John D'Oliveira cites a New Year's message from Dr Erich Leistner, direct of the Africa Institute of South Africa, calling 1985 a year in which there were greater crises in Africa "than any experienced in recent times." In South Africa, the unrest was linked to the economic recession. Elsewhere the drought and poor economic management widened the gap between population increase and the availability of food. In South Africa, "it was a question of the 'utmost importance' whether the South African Government could convince the large majority of non-radical blacks that they had a choice between acquiescing in a violent, revolutionary course on the one hand and power-sharing with their non-black countrymen entailing evolution towards greater material well-being on the other. It was by no means certain whether significant numbers still considered the evolutionary course a genuine option." To achieve progress " 'the use of force to maintain law and order in a revolutionary climate should be overshadowed by an information drive presenting a generally acceptable programme of principles for a just dispensation that

offers a clear alternative to violence.'" "Firm steps" in this direction by the government "would do much to promote internal confidence in the future of South Africa."

Bright Spots in Gloom

In an article on 1985, John Maclennan reviews some of the changes announced by the government which moved some ways towards meeting some of the demands of some of the blacks. He notes that "in the white community there developed a sense of the urgency of thorough reform. There was an acceptance that it is better to receive a smaller slice of the cake than stand by and watch the whole lot go stale." The tricameral set-up was blamed for many problems, but it did have the positive effect of getting politicians of various races together to thrash out problems. "The very fact that they were talking to each other, eating and working together, created a new awareness which did not exist before for many." On the negative side, however, "the government's single biggest problem has been its inability to sell the changes it is introducing," in large measure because "President Botha is now stuck with a credibility problem. Does he really want change or is he just tinkering?" The problems in the townships have created on " 'us and them'" division in which "more liberal whites found it difficult to sympathise with the black man's cause in the light of the daily catalogue of horror." South Africans are finding it difficult to cope with the fact that they are living in a society where people can simply disappear or police can lock you up or shoot you.

The ANC's Year

An article from Lusaka says that in the past year, the ANC has become "one of the main actors in the South African conflict" and now appears "more powerful than at any time in its history." "Within black politics, it succeeded in establishing unprecedented authority for itself, and it led the campaign to remove from black areas those blacks it alleged were 'apartheid collaborators.'" In white politics, the organization attracted talks with a number of leading whites in its effort "to isolate to the maximum President Botha's Government." The pressure for government talks with the ANC as well as the release of Mandela "prompted a clear exchange of signals through an intermediary between the government and the ANC in November," which was denied by the government but confirmed by other sources.

Militarily, ANC attacks reached a high since 1976 and "there were signs of the old pattern of armed propaganda giving away increasingly to a campaign to 'arm the people' and to involve a broad range of ANC supporters in armed activity. This heralds an important shift in ANC tactics." The past year has been devoted to strengthening the underground machinery and establishing bases in the country to overcome the problem of long lines of command. "A self-reliant underground is the key, say ANC sources. These sources say their 'primary bases' are the black working class and militant youth." Some successes have been achieved and there is "a strong likelihood of a substantial increase in guerilla activity in the new year."

War Situation Exists

An article interviewing Dr. Nico Smith, the Dutch Reformed minister who met with the ANC in New York, cites Dr. Smith as saying that it was a "trumatic experience" to learn that the ANC, like the government, is determined to continue on its present course. Both believed a war situation to exist in South Africa. "There seems to be no solution," he said. "The country is sliding into a situation which makes life itself meaningless. I can't see how the government can simply tell the country it will bring the situation under control. It simply doesn't seem able to." Dr. Smith said, however, that he thought the ANC believed there was a role for whites in South Africa. "They see them as a white Africans ... they don't want them to leave the country."

1986 Economic Trends

In a discussion of 1986 economic trends, John Spira says that "an economic recovery ... is open to little doubt. Pump enough money into a nation bearing all the hallmarks of spending psychosis and lacking the incentive to save and you will produce nothing less than a consumption-led boom." The extent and duration of the boom is less certain because officials will have to dampen the boom to counter inflation and the "renewed downward pressure on the rand." Although the rand might strengthen marginally, odds are better that it will decrease further as a result of "high inflation, misguided government economic policy and the vast quantity of foreign loans scheduled for repayment next year." There are some prospects for the price of gold improving because of world events and the weakening of the dollar.

'Soft Target' Option

In the *Star*'s "Review" section, Gary Van Staden reviews the years events and notes that the year "will be marked as the year that the white government admitted for the first time that apartheid was a failure. It had not succeeded nor could it do so." For whatever reason — "and there is evidence to suggest that the enormous pressure coming from the townships and overseas played a significant role" — the government took limited steps "to alter the course of South Africa." The consumer boycotts and business involvement in politics also produced positive results. However, the recent explosions in Messina and Durban show that "someone, somewhere has decided to intensify the guerilla campaign by attacking so-called 'soft targets.' It is a tactic that will probably continue and perhaps even be intensified meaning that no South African can ever walk down a street again without wondering if he or she is the next victim." Neither the government nor the ANC are willing to compromise and a South African retaliation is now awaited — "and the cycle of violence will go on."

Reject Extremists

In his "Talking Cents" column, Harry Schwarz, MP for Yeoville, says that he hopes the new year will be a year in which "those who want peace stand up and be heard. The majority of moderates should demonstrate their strength and reject the polarisers." He also expresses the desire that people be able to express their opinions "without fearing that their houses will be burnt at the dead of night or that they will be subjected to pellets, gas or whips or burning tyres." He says more jobs must be created and inflation must be dampened, which are not incompatible goals. He believes that if extremists are rejected and people work at it, "there can be a future not only for some of us, but for all of us in South Africa."

American View

In his "American View" column, Neil Lurssen says that President P.W. Botha must "produce an appealing reform rabbit" or

the new year, like the old one, will be "a truly rotten time" for South Africa in the United States. In American eyes, in 1985 apartheid grew from a "nasty, racist policy" to a " 'threat to world peace.' " He anticipates there will be more calls in Congress for increased sanctions and anti-South African rhetoric from the Reagan administration will increase. He notes, however, that because of the explosions, the "ANC is in danger of losing some of the sympathy it has won here" and more gruesome television shots of victims may "persuade many Americans that the ANC is just another heartless group of terrorist fanatics."

SWAZILAND

Ministers Deny Knowledge of SADF Raids

MB272029 Mababane Domestic Service in Siswati
1900 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The Governments of Swaziland and South Africa have denied that the SADF launched raids into Lavumisa and Ndzevane in search of ANC members. The ministers of foreign affairs and of defense have denied knowledge of reports in newspapers and broadcasts that the SADF launched raids into Swaziland.

The commissioner of police, Mr Sandile Mndiniso, said he intends to meet with the press to find out the truth about this matter. The head of the South African trade mission in Swaziland Mr Sam Stebban, said it is a poor reflection on the press that it does not make enough effort to research the issues before reporting on them. He said he had not as yet heard anything concrete about what took place in Ndzevane and Lavumisa. He promised to let the press know as soon as he had any information.

ZIMBABWE

Joint Zimbabwe-Mozambican Force Overruns MNR Base

MB281153 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 28 Dec 85

[Text] Members of the joint Zimbabwe-Mozambique defense forces have overrun another bandit stronghold in the Sofala Province of Mozambique. During the attack on the so-called Mozambique National Resistance movement, MNR, Kachadea base, the joint force killed 52 armed bandits and captured large quantities of arms [word indistinct].

The stronghold harbored more than 600 bandits and several civilians. The army public relations department has announced that the base was attacked on Christmas (?eve) in a battle which lasted 2 days. Several head of cattle, goats, chickens, ducks were found in the base, which (words indistinct).

It was from this base that acts of sabotage, looting, and rapings were planned and launched against the Mozambican Government and the people in the province. The base was attacked after the joint forces received information form a deserter who had been training at the camp.

The Zimbabwe nationaljoint defense forces [as heard] recently launched an offensive against South African-backed MNR bandits. Already, a number of major bandit camps have been destroyed.